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ALIA WARMLY RECEIVED ON SKRAPAR DISTRICT VISIT

AU101142 Tirana ATA in English 0730 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Tirana, March 10 (ATA) -- The first secretary of the Central Committee of the party and president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, Comrade Ramiz Alia, after winding up his three-day visit to the district of Korce on occasion of the 100th anniversary of the first Albanian school, arrived yesterday morning on a visit to the district of Skrapar.

Thousands upon thousands of people welcomed Comrade Ramiz Alia enthusiastically in the town of Corovode. He was welcomed by the first secretary of the District Party Committee, Elmaz Puto, by the chairman of the Executive Committee of the District People's Council, Enver Naska and other comrades.

The main square of the town resounded with applause and acclamations. The leader of the party and state greeted and cordially met with inhabitants of the city, old and young. Pioneers of Enver presented him bunches of flowers.

On this occasion a grand rally was organised. It was declared open by the first secretary of the Party Committee of the district, Elmaz Puto. Amidst a great revolutionary enthusiasm, Comrade Ramiz Alia took the floor. His speech was attentively listened to and was often punctuated by applauses and acclamations.

Later on, Comrade Ramiz Alia met and talked with young volunteers, that are working for the creation of the meadows along the flow of the Osum River. He was received with joy and love by the young volunteers.

On March 9 in the afternoon, Comrade Ramiz Alia had a meeting with working people and leading cadres of the party and of the people's power in the district. On occasion of the visit of Comrade Ramiz Alia, the artistic groups of the House of Culture gave a festive concert.

Speaks at Corovode

AU101356 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1430 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Speech by Ramiz Alia, AWP Central Committee first secretary, to the people of Corovode, Skrapar District, on 9 March -- recorded]

[Text] Dear Comrades, brothers and sisters of Skrapar: I am very glad to meet with you today. [cheers] We always come among you with a sense of nostalgia, to see each other, and to talk together as friends and brothers. All Albania knows and honors you for your heroic struggle, for the fruitful labor you have given to the revolution and to socialism, and for your devotion to the party, with which you are joined like flesh to bone. [cheers]

We come to Skrapar, not only to satisfy our feelings of nostalgia, but to gain new strength and energy from your optimism and wisdom, from your determination to advance on the brilliant road of socialism, on the course laid out for us by the party and our great leader, Comrade Enver Hoxha. [cheers]

I would like to use this occasion, in the name of the party Central Committee, to greet and congratulate you on your victories, and on the exemplary consistency you have shown in the fight to implement the party's policy and directives. [paragraph continues]

I express my belief that the workers of Skrapar District will, as always, marshal all their strength to fulfil the great tasks ahead of us, which were set before us by the historic ninth party congress. [cheers]

Dear Comrades, the militant people of Skrapar have always played an outstanding part in the great battle for national freedom and independence. Here, every village, gorge, and pass has a history. Every road and stream speaks of the heroism shown by the sons of Skrapar, who like all Albanians can never permit anyone, any foreigner, to violate our hearth, trample upon us, or violate that which we hold dearest, our freedom. The party and Comrade Enver redoubled the bravery of Skrapar. When they issued the call to fight to be masters of our enslaved land, and to build a free and democratic life, which our people had dreamed of for centuries, all Skrapar burst into flame, rose to its feet, and reached for its arms. Skrapar stood firm to the end, and became a base of the party and a free partisan zone.

Under the miserable regimes of the past the people of Skrapar had to scratch the earth with their bare hands to eke out a poor living. As in all Albania, and perhaps here more than anywhere else, poverty and ignorance held total sway. No one cared whether the people of Skrapar could keep themselves alive. It was the party, and your self-sacrificing labor, your abilities and skills, which made it possible, in a very short time, to do the work and and make the progress of an entire epoch.

When you see Skrapar today, you do not see a single trace of the past. You see changes at every turn. This lovely town, which rises before your eyes, did not exist in the past. Around it there are entirely new villages, newly fertile fields, schools and hospitals, paved roads, and orchards. Everywhere you see the new people of socialism, raised by the party to a highlevel of knowledge and culture. Skrapar today may be proud of its completely new industry, of its agriculture and advanced socialist livestock sector, which guarantees a supply of meat to the people, and sends its surplus to the state. Skrapar may also be proud of its high level of education, culture, and health. You not only fulfilled the Seventh 5-Year Plan, but achieved satisfactory results in every sector, and you have gotten off on the right foot this year, too. In the name of the party, I congratulate you on these successes, and express hope that you will score still greater victories in the future. [cheers]

The meeting and surpassing of plan targets is one of the most valuable new traditions of the people of Skrapar. The life of the people is moving ahead. It becomes happier and more beautiful each day, just as the party wants. Let us maintain and promote this tradition, this impetus, this dynamic pace of work, this revolutionary spirit, so that we will always be able to say with pride that the Skrapar of the party, the Skrapar that gave us Riza Cerrova and Kahreman Ylli, that offered hundreds of martyrs, and numerous heroes of battle and labor, stands in the vanguard of the great battles of socialist construction, honors its traditions, and carries them forward. [cheers]

The plan approved by the party at the ninth congress opens up great possibilities for Skrapar District. Industry and agriculture will develop and move forward. The level of education and culture will be raised higher, and the people's living standards improved. Tasks are increasing everywhere: In your district they are especially great in the livestock sector. You know that the party gives priority to this important branch of the economy, as was decided at the ninth congress. In applying the guidelines that have been set, Skrapar District is to develop and progress as an area for livestock-raising.

Only a comprehensively high level of development has made such specialization possible in entire sectors of the economy. This will give impetus to the development of livestock-raising, but also set great tasks before you, tasks which demand labor and scientific study. The main point is to quickly increase stocks in the area, especially of sheep, goats, and cows. Standards in livestock-raising must be raised on a scientific basis, with attention given to animal breeding, increased milk yields, and greater quantities and qualities of meat, wool, and hides. The priority expansion the livestock sector's possibilities demands more persistent labor, especially to increase the fodder supply. There are great opportunities for this in your district.

Many natural pastures must be used more profitably, and man-made pastureland must be increased. Much must be done to increase our output of corn. There can be no advanced livestock sector without corn and forage crops. I express the party's conviction that Skrapar, which has able veterinarians and livestock experts, talented managers and administrators, and, most of all, skilled herdsmen with traditions like those of the Hero of Socialist Labor Kujtim Kulla, will successfully implement the tasks for the livestock sector entrusted it by the party. [cheers]

Dear Comrades, the ninth party congress opened new horizons for the people, for the nation's further development, and for the construction of socialism. In this 5-year period, our economy and culture will grow at a rapid pace. Hundreds of new productive projects and sociocultural facilities will be built, and the technology of existing installations will be improved, renewed, and modernized. On the basis of these developments, the people's prosperity will rise, both in the cities and in the villages. The magnificant objectives of the ninth party congress have brought forth a new inspiration everywhere, and have increased the confidence of the masses in the party line, their future, and their courage to take on and perform greater tasks. Everywhere work is going on with great enthusiasm, and plans are being fulfilled regularly in every branch of industry. Work is rapidly proceeding on the construction of major projects, as in Banje and on the Milot-Rreshen railroad. With great satisfaction I am able to inform you that the third turbine of the Enver Hoxha hydroelectric power station at Koman went on line on the national grid. [cheers]

The unity of steel that characterizes our people is a great and historic victory, an inexhaustible source of strength and energy. Everywhere, in town and country alike, young and old are united as a single fist clenched round the party. The elections of 1 February confirmed the people's unshakable determination to advance on the road of socialism. They proved once again, in all its magnificence, the unity of steel which binds our people. The unanimity of the people in the elections, and their votes for the candidates of the Democratic Front present tasks for us all. We need labor and sweat to do our jobs and overcome the difficulties we encounter. However, we also need work and knowledge to accelerate the pace of our comprehensive development. While our human and material resources for a quicker advance are enormous, they must be recognized and exploited with profound scientific expertise, organization, qualified management, savings, initiative, and imagination. The ninth party congress showed us the road, clearly delineating our tasks. The situation demands that everyone set to work with a militant spirit and revolutionary impetus, with the only concerns being how to serve the people, how to increase their prosperity, further strengthen the socialist order, and faithfully apply the guidelines of the party and the teachings of Comrade Enver. [cheers]

So, comrades, let us work with redoubled strength and united strongly around the party to make our plans for industry and agriculture a reality, to exploit the great reserves we have, to inspire and support creative initiatives, to push forward education and culture, and promote the socialist construction of our dear homeland. [cheers]

Dear comrades, we must see that the tasks set by the party are closely linked to the international situation and the developments and events in the world around us. As the party taught us at its ninth congress, the world situation is deteriorating. The great imperialist and revisionist powers, the United States of America and the Soviet Union, are attempting with all their strength to put all people under their pressure, to clap them in new fetters, and extend their sway over continents, regions, and countries. Everywhere we see efforts to enlarge the sphere of influence of imperialism and revisionism. No one says there is a third world war, but more blood is shed each day today than in World War II. We're one to count the theaters of war, the destruction done by the imperialists and revisionists in the Middle East, Latin America, Afghanistan, Southeast Asia, Africa and elsewhere, it would undoubtedly be just as great as that done by German Nazism in World War II.

Therefore, for our people, who are a militant people, who love freedom and independence more than anything else, there must be greater vigilance, and training for defense must be continuous. Training for defense means more than military training, exercises, and the knowledge of how to use a gun, artillery piece or tank. Preparing yourself for defense means having a strong economy, a strong rear line, and a united people, for only a united people and an economically strong country can meet every demand of the age and cope with every enemy, from wherever they may come.

Dear comrades, brothers and sisters of Skrapar, the party is delighted with your successes. From the bottom of my heart I offer congratulations to the heroic people of Skrapar. I hope that you like the entire Albanian people, will continue to distinguish yourselves in terms of patriotism and will, labor and loyalty, knowledge and progress. I wish happiness for your families and victories at work.

Long live the heroic people of Skrapar. Long live our AWP. Glory to the immortal work of Comrade Enver Hoxha. [cheers]

'UNORTHODOX' RETAIL PRACTICES CONDEMNED AS 'ALIEN'

AU100916 Tirana PUNA in Albanian 3 Mar 87 p 3

[Hatixhe Reka article: "Labelled 'Goods for Friends' -- According to the Observations of a Social Checking Operation"]

[Text] At the end of January, people were waiting for some synthetic yarn to arrive at People's Store No 1 in Durres. What happened? Instead of yarn, the sales clerk was given money equal to the value of the goods on the delivery invoice. The clerk was surprised, and the customers waiting to buy yarn were upset. How could this happen?

Quite simply, the yarn was sold at the warehouse. Even though it was late in the afternoon, at 1830, the warehouse was still open. That afternoon certain people were there picking out yarn, according to the colors they most preferred. The sales director was there, along with the head of the personnel department, and some others; Sali, the storekeeper, stood alongside giving his opinion on what color yarn best suited them. It did not occur to a single worker in the sales enterprise administration that they were doing something wrong, nor did they stop to think of the people who were waiting at the store to purchase the yarn.

Anyone who discoveres such a situation asks: "Who gave these workers the right to abuse their position, and to consider personal gain as something normal? Why are these privileged people turning the warehouse into a store? Doesn't the professional organization see these things, and if so, why does it stay silent?"

Such activities are more than unpleasant. Every citizen, and managers in particular, can be punished for them. When citizens start out on the road of providing goods in unorthodox ways, they leave themselves open to being compromised in other ways, and lower their expectations of others. Such cadres will neither have the courage nor the right to demand of others what they do not demand of themselves. These actions turn the warehouse into a retail outlet, dealing in goods for friends and cronies. This happens so often that the needs of the people for certain goods are not met. The important thing for such people is to ensure that they and their friends have everything they want. They do not work in the retail sector for nothing. And professional organizations accept this situation.

This kind of thinking, so alien to our society, makes some retail workers consider themselves privileged and neglect their duties. However, our socialist society has no privileges. A sales clerk has a duty to serve the people, and serve them quickly, properly, and courteously. People respect such clerks. In Durres there are many such responsible workers in stores, including Fatime Llalla, Hatixhe Cela, Ilda Pici, Zenepe Selimi, Jorgjia Bardhi, and many other comrades who serve the public responsibly and politely. It is a pleasure to shop where they work. But why do others not follow their example? Many customers at Dairy No 60 ask: "Where does Nexhmije Bilali get the right to put aside milk and butter for her friends and relatives? And what about Nexhmije Alushi, who allows the driver of the milk truck to keep whole bottles for himself? People are disgusted by such things, complaining more than once to the managers of enterprises. Recently the District Trade Union Coundil, after checking on these complaints, revealed many instances of bad and unfair service in certain shops. The investigation forced practical measures to be taken, but the enterprises have yet to make a move. Steps have been taken against the occasional sales clerk, but there has been no news about the attitude of personnel or administrators in the Retail Enterprise, from director Drita Meta down to the accountants who keep the goods stocked in the warehouses.

Even though several warnings have been issued about service in the "Durres" Restaurant, especially about Xhavit the cook, nothing has been done. "You cannot do anything about Xhavit," the customers say. "He likes his back scratched, at work and after work."

This kind of sick familiarity in the retail and service sector, "scratching the backs" of irresponsible workers, is alien to our society. It is the duty of the professional organizations to take control of the situation, to increase the demands placed on workers, and to criticize even isolated instances of such activities.

DOYNOV HOLDS TALKS WITH INDIAN MINISTERS

AU062041 Sofia BTA in English 1857 GMT 6 Mar 87

["New Prospects for Bulgaro-Indian Cooperation" -- BTA headline]

[Text] New Delhi, March 6 (BTA correspondent) -- Mr Ognyan Doynov, deputy premier and chairman of the government's Economic Council, who is also the Bulgarian co-chairman of the mixed Bulgaro-Indian Commission for Economic and Techno-Scientific Cooperation, conferred today with Mr Narayan Dutt Tiwari, minister of external affairs, with Mr Gurdial Singh Dhillon, minister of agriculture and rural development and co-chairman of the mixed Indo-Bulgarian Commission for Economic and Techno-Scientific Cooperation, and with Mr Vishwanath Pratap Singh, minister of defence.

Mr Doynov and Foreign Minister Narayan Dutt Tiwari surveyed bilateral relations and considered some topical international problems. Bulgaria and India welcome the Soviet nuclear disarmament initiatives, including Mr Mikhail Gorbachev's proposal for an agreement with the United States on medium-range missiles. Mr Tiwari familiarized the Bulgarian guest with the situation in the region and with the efforts of the Republic of India towards the maintenance of peace. Mr Ongyan Doynov told about Bulgaria's initiatives and contribution to turning the Balkans into a nuclear-and chemical-weapon-free zone, to strengthening peace in Europe and worldwide.

High on the agenda of the talks with the Indian ministers and business executives was cooperation in economics, trade, science and technology. An emphasis was laid on the great role played by Mr Todor Zhivkov, by Mrs Indira Gandhi and by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi for the upgrade development of cooperation, and additional opportunities for its promotion and diversification were discussed.

Bulgaria and India signed a trade protocol for 1987, under which bilateral commercial exchanges will rise 10 per cent from last year and will be extended to new commodities. Bulgaria will be exporting to India computers, substance and know-how for the production of the Pharmachim-developed medicine "Rifampicin", and India will be supplying this country with electronic components.

Tonight in New Delhi Mr Ognyan Doynov ceremonially opened the new Lyudmila Zhivkova Computer Teaching Centre. Addressing the ceremony, the Foreign Minister Mr Tiwari emphasised that Lyudmila Zhivkova is well-known in India as an outstanding public figure, scholar and politician. He emphasised her services to the consolidation of Indo-Bulgarian friendship.

On behalf of the Lyudmila Zhivkova International Foundation, Ms Evgeniya Zhivkova thanked for India's decision to name this up-to-date centre, integrated in the country's education system, after Lyudmila Zhivkova. Ms Evgeniya Zhivkova expressed confidence that educational cooperation will be promoted and extended in the interests of both peoples, to the benefit of progress and peace on the planet.

The ceremony was attended by Indian Government ministers, men of science and business executives, and by many members of the public.

GDR DEFENSE MINISTER, DELEGATION ARRIVE 10 MAR

LD101755 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1715 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Sofia, 10 Mar (ADN) -- A GDR military delegation led by Defense Minister Army General Heinz Kessler arrived in Bulgaria today on an official visit of friendship. The guests were warmly welcomed at Sofia Airport by Bulgarian Defense Minister Dobri Dzhurov and other senior military figures, and were accorded military honors.

The delegation laid wreaths this afternoon at the Georgiy Dimitrov Mausoleum, at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, and at the Soviet Army memorial.

The two countries' defense ministers then began their talks.

Kessler Meets With Dzhurov

LD110508 East Berlin Domestic Service in German 2110 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Excerpts] A GDR military delegation led by Defense Minister Army General Heinz Kessler, member of the Politburo of the SED Central Committee, left today for the Bulgarian People's Republic on an official friendly visit. [passage omitted]

Hans Plaumann reports from Sofia:

[Plaumann] Bulgaria is the third fraternal socialist country after the Soviet Union and Poland that Defense Minister Heinz Kessler has visited. Our states are linked by close and and dependable friendship and a high level of cooperation embracing all areas of public life. This year is the 10th anniversary of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance concluded between the GDR and Bulgaria; and the ministers referred to it in their talks this evening. Heinz Kessler said there are many bonds between our armies in technical, economic, and scientific military cooperation. Bulgarian Defense Minister Dobri Dzhurov stated that the GDR military delegations's trip would undoubtedly consolidate and deepen traditional links of friendship and all-round cooperation.

Turning to the international situation, both ministers declared that their armies know the frightful effects of modern weapons and fully support the initiatives and wide-ranging proposals of the Soviet Union and the other Warsaw Treaty member-states, which provide for genuine arms limitation and disarmament to avert a nuclear holocaust and ensure peaceful conditions for our peoples' socialist construction. They also noted Mikhail Gorbachev's latest initiative to conclude without delay an agreement on removing medium-range missiles from Europe.

Minister Kessler emphasized that any attempt to gain military superiority over the armies of the socialist community or to upset the rough military balance is doomed to failure. For the GDR National People's Army and the Bulgarian People's Army, this means that they must, alongside their comrades-in-arms, unremittingly ensure that their combat capability and readiness match the prevailing military-political situation.

Heinz Kessler said that the troops of the socialist German state are aware of the great responsibility they bear at the border between the NATO and great Warsaw Treaty areas.

The military delegation's program includes visits to Bulgarian People's Army units and meetings with [word indistinct] of industrial enterprises.

CONSULTATIONS HELD WITH DPRK FOREIGN MINISTRY

AU101947 Sofia BTA in English 1757 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Sofia, March 10 (BTA) -- The Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea held consultations in Sofia between March 5 and 10. The delegations were headed by the deputy ministers of foreign affairs, Mr Aleksandur Strezov and Mr (Yi In-kyu).

Mr Petur Mladenov, minister of foreign affairs, received Mr (Yi In-kyu). In a friendly atmosphere, they exchanged views on questions concerning bilateral cooperation and on some international issues of mutual concern.

CONTROL COMMITTEE REPRIMANDS OFFICIALS

AU101945 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] A meeting of the Committee on State and People's Control took place on 10 March. On the basis of an inspection of the Ministry of Transportation and the Bulgarian Civil Aviation Economic Trust, it was determined that in addition to successes there are also certain problems, weaknesses, and shortcomings which have a negative influence on the quality of service. Among the bodies criticized was the Institute of Air transport, which is intended to be a leading and coordinating link in introducing scientific-technical progress and broadly applying the scientific approach to work.

The committee warned Velichko Velichkov, first deputy minister of transportation and general director of Bulgarian Civil Aviation, and reproved (?Tomas Todorov), former deputy general director of Bulgarian Civil Aviation and general director of Balkan Airlines. Stoyan Doychinov, director of the Agricultural Aviation Economic Enterprise, and Eng Petur Rusev, director of the Air Transportation Administration, were reprimanded as well.

The committee gave a strict reprimand to Eng Vasil Stefanov, deputy director of the Air Transportation Administration, responsible for technical issues.

In addition, the committee reviewed materials related to inspections conducted on the basis of tips [signal]. During the construction of his villa in Gulubnik, Pernik Okrug, Eng Stefan Nekhrizov, general director of the Energy Supply Enterprise in Sofia, used his official post for personal gain. The Committee punished Eng Stefan Nekhrizov by firing him. Eng Krustan Metodiev, director of Toploremonstroy in Sofia, has been strictly reprimanded and fined, as has Eng Filip Milanov, director of Construction Administration No 1 at the Sofstroy State Economic Trust.

The committee has ordered leaders of the enterprises to collect the value of unpaid materials and services from Nekhrizov.

PRC FOREIGN MINISTER PREPARES TO DEPART PRAGUE

Wu Xueqian Assesses Talks

LD101425 Prague CTK in English 1400 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Prague March 10 (CTK) -- Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian said today he was "very optimistic regarding the prospects of development of Czechoslovak-Chinese relations in which tremendous reserves exist for their further expansion in all spheres".

Speaking to journalists before his departure from Czechoslovakia he said his talks with Czechoslovak representatives were held in a spirit of mutual understanding and a friendly and sincere atmosphere. The successful and fruitful talks followed up the dynamic development of Czechoslovak-Chinese relations in the last few years. The talks also confirmed that Czechoslovakia and China have close or very close views on many international issues, the minister said.

1987 "will be a year in which Czechoslovak-Chinese relations will enter a new stage" Wu Xueqian said adding that Czechoslovak Premier Lubomir Strougal will visit China in April and Acting Chinese Communist Party General Secretary Zhao Ziyang will visit Czechoslovakia in June. Also Czechoslovak Communist Party General Secretary and President Gustav Husak is to visit China, the minister said.

He added that in the discussion of economic issues the two sides agreed that it is in the interest of the socialist national economy to implement an economic reform, proceeding from the concrete situation and conditions in the particular country. He voiced the conviction that bilateral economic relations will continue to dynamically develop between the two countries.

"I spent one year in Czechoslovakia 37 years ago and can see the tremendous development in industry and the living standard of the Czechoslovak people in the period. Czechoslovakia is a developed industrial country and our mutual cooperation will benefit both sides," Minister Wu Xueqian said.

Leaves for Poland

LD101113 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1100 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Wu Xueqian, member of the Politburo of the CPC Central Committee, member of the State Council and minister of foreign affairs, ended his official visit to Czechoslovakia today and left for Poland.

He was seen off at Ruzyne Airport by Minister of Foreign Affairs Bohuslav Chnoupek and other officials.

VALENTA GREETS PRC SOCIAL SCIENCE DELEGATION

LD101421 Prague CTK in English 1321 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Prague March 10 (CTK) -- A delegation of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, led by Deputy Chairman Liu Guoguang, arrived here today at the invitation of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences.

The Chinese guests and a delegation of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, led by Corresponding Member Frantisek Valenta, informed one another about the mission, organizational strcture and topical tasks of the two institutions in the sphere of social sciences.

The Chinese delegation will also be acquainted with the structure of social sciences in Czechoslovakia and will visit the academy's institutes of social sciences and several industrial and agricultural plants.

TRIAL OF JAZZ SECTION OFFICIALS OPENS 10 MAR

AU101740 Paris AFP in English 1640 GMT 10 Mar 87

[By Paola Juvenal]

[Text] Prague, March 10 (AFP) -- The most important trial since the 1970's to involve a Czechoslovak independent cultural organisation opened here Tuesday when officials of the Jazz Section appeared in court charged with "illegal commerce."

The members of the Jazz Section's executive, including its president, Karel Srp, aged 50, and secretary, Vladimir Juril, aged 42, were arrested last September in Prague. Charges were brought against them for continuing their activities after the Interior Ministry closed down their organisation in October 1984. The defendants are also accused of making a profit of more than 400,000 crowns (about 40,000 dollars) through publishing.

Only five of the seven accused appeared in court Tuesday. Two others, Vlastimil Drda and Milos Drda, were excused because of illness and will be tried later, court president Vladimir Stiborik announced.

Access to the courtroom was limited to about 20 persons -- relatives of the accused, members of official Czechoslovak organisations, and Western reporters.

A crowd of Jazz Section supporters, mostly young people, nevertheless invaded the courthouse corridors and produced deafening applause each time one of the accused entered or left the courtroom. The arrival of a handcuffed Mr. Srp, escorted by two policement, brought cheers.

Looking on, too, were envoys of human rights organisations like Amnesty International, and members of the Charter 77 civil rights movement, including playwright Vaclav Havel. Charter 77, in a letter to the Justice Ministry, has called the trial a political one and asked that the defendants be freed.

In their statements to the authorities, the accused insisted they acted in good faith and that their cultural activities were not illegal. Since the Jazz Section was set up in 1971, they said, they had all worked for it for nothing.

Mr. Srp, looking calm and determined, said he had sent more than 100 letters to different state organisations asking them to justify the dissolution of the Jazz Section.

"If anyone had replied to us," he added, "we might have behaved differently."

The verdict is expected Thursday.

COURT DISMISSES APPEAL OF CHARTER-77 ACTIVIST

LD062004 Hamburg DPA in German 1749 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] Frankfurt/Prague (DPA) -- According to the International Society for Human Rights, the Supreme Court in Prague has rejected the appeal by Charter-77 signatory Ervin Motl (38). The journalist must now serve 3 years in prison for "subversive activity." The Frankfurt-based human rights society also claims to have learned from civil rights circles in Prague that the judgements against Milan Svatos (44) and Jindrich Blaha (39), who received suspended sentences from the Prague City Court in Novemeber 1986 as Motl's codefendants, were confirmed in appeal proceedings.

According to the society, Ervin Motl, a hitherto obscure signer of Charter-77, worked as a journalist until 1975. From 1983 to 1986, he served as a fireman in Prague with Svatos and Blaha until his arrest in early July 1986.

In addition, the human rights society says it has learned from civil rights circles in Prague that the trial of Evangelical Pastor Jan Dus (55) is to begin on 17 March at the Prague District Court. An international committee involving individuals and church organizations in Switzerland and Austria has been trying to secure the release of Pastor Dus, who has been in prison since May 1986 charged with "undermining the Republic."

POLENIK, DELEGATION LEAVE FOR MOSCOW 9 MARCH

LD091112 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1000 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] A study delegation of the CPCZ Central Committee led by its secretary, Jindrich Polednik, left for Moscow today at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee. The group was seen off at Ruzyne Airport by Mikulas Beno, secretary of the Party Central Committee.

HUSAK, SPANISH DELEGATION HOLD 'FRANK' TALKS

LD061427 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1300 GMT 5 Mar 87

[Text] Gustav Husak, General Secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the Republic, met in Prague Castle today with a delegation from the Spanish Socialist Workers' Party led by Guillermo Galeote, secretary and member of the Executive Committee.

In the cordial and frank conversation, the two officials described the situation in their countries and discussed the possibilities of developing cooperation between the two parties.

They noted that Czechoslovak-Spanish relations have reached a good level, which lays the foundation for their further development in all fields, including politics, economics, and culture.

While exchanging views on the current world conditions, they stressed that in the fight for a relaxation of tension and the preservation of world peace, cooperation between communist and workers parties and all democratic and peace-loving forces is necessary.

Gustav Husak and Guillermo Galeote had high praise for the new Soviet proposal put forward by Mikhail Gorbachev, which calls for the conclusion of a separate agreement between the Soviet Union and the United States on the elimination of medium-range missiles from Europe. They described it as a unique opportunity to make progress in disarmament, and to strengthen trust and security in the world.

Vasil Bilak, member of the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, also took part in the reception.

DOCTORS REJECT REPORT ON CANCER, NUCLEAR PLANT

AU101147 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 7 Mar 87 p 7

[Jaroslav Kojzar article in the "Note" column: "'Credible' As Usual"]

[Text] At the beginning of this week, the Austrian daily KURIER published a rather long report, in which it claims that in Czechoslovakia, near the nuclear power plant in Jaslovske Bohunice, deformed children are beginning to be born. It also asserts that "5 people die of cancer each day" in the Pigstan Hospital, and that all this is the consequence of a "leak of radioactivity."

Is it really true? Is the Vienna daily right, or not? Its assertion is obvious nonsense. Nevertheless, we asked the appropriate bodies for their opinion. Doctor Eng Lumir Kyselka, director of the Office of the CSSR Minister of Fuels and Power, says:

"The CSSR has signed an agreement with Austria governing issues of common interest concerning nuclear power plants. During the latest visit by an Austrian delegation to the nuclear power plants in Dukovany and Jaslovske Bohunice on 20-21 January 1987, which was headed by Austrian Ambassador Mr Gleissner, it was specifically noted that from the viewpoint of nuclear safety, the operation is of a high standard. On 20 January, Czechoslovak and Austrian television broadcast an assessment of Czechoslovak nuclear power engineering made by the head of the Austrian delegation. In our opinion, this assessment was most objective.

"For your information, the Austrian delegation included, among others, Dr Schmiedt from the Federal Chancellor's office, Dr Wiedermann of the Interior Ministry, and Dr Schaffecher of the Austrian Health Ministry. During the discussions in the two Czechoslovak nuclear power plants, which were always correct and technically clear, the Austrians would have certainly have expressed their opinion on that problem had there been even a grain of truth in the KURIER report."

Here is the position taken by Dr Stefan Calpas, chief medical officer of the Slovak SR:

"The Health Ministry of the Slovak SR rejects all assertions about some sort of damage to people living near Jaslovske Bohunice. Nor is it true that deformed children are being born here. We can also verify that the occurrence of cancer in the area around the power plant is no higher than the average in other districts of our republic."

It should be asked who benefits from KURIER's inventions. It is certainly not the cause of good-neighborly relations.

PAPER LAUDS GORBACHEV'S EUROMISSILE PROPOSAL

AU041532 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 2 Mar 87 p 1

[Editorial: "Historical Opportunity Must Not Be Wasted"]

[Text] The Soviet proposal for the elimination [likvidace] of intermediate-range missiles and a substantial reduction of nuclear arsenals in Europe is practical evidence of the Soviet Union's stance on mankind's urgent and unpostponable needs. It rests on the following principles:

-- Nuclear disarmament is a prerequisite for a peaceful future, which is seriously threatened by the accelerating arms race, especially in the sphere of nuclear weapons;

-- The two mightiest military groups -- the Warsaw Pact and the North Atlantic Alliance -- with the largest and strongest nuclear arsenals face each other in Europe and;

-- The Soviet-American meeting in Reykjavik has created quite a new situation: It showed that nuclear disarmament is possible and also pointed out the directions and means by which it can be jointly achieved.

As is known, the Soviet plan of 15 January 1986 proposed a way to rid the world of nuclear weapons by the year 2000. Its realization would be the ideal thing. If the world public could vote on the translation of the Soviet proposal into action, it would win by an overwhelming majority. Nevertheless, the Western nuclear powers, headed by the United States, have taken a stand on the plan, in which the word "impractical" most frequently arose. We will not engage in polemics now as to why someone regards the elimination of the threat of a catastrophe for civilization as "impractical." The world is full of complicated and contradictory interests. That is how it is, and we must agree on one thing -- Any continuation of the policy of force and ever-greater stocks of arms, of the production of weapons systems, which can destroy life on earth many times over, would be suicide.

The Soviet plan of 15 January -- regardless of the immediate stand of the nuclear superpowers -- has laid the foundation for nuclear disarmament. It has its key [uzlove] points, and one of them is the question of intermediate-range missiles in Europe. The USSR is working to see that a fabric of peace is woven from these key points, from which one could then sew the clothes mankind wants most. No one denies -- we witness this daily -- that a difficult process is involved here. Precisely because this is a creative process, it requires new approaches and the search for new ways.

Mikhail Gorbachev stated that what happened in Reykjavik is well known. Who strove for the meeting's success, and who is to blame for its failure? In Iceland, it was agreed upon at one point that the USSR and the United States would in the next 5 years eliminate intermediate-range missiles in Europe. This was done with the understanding that the USSR would keep 100 missiles in the Asian part of its territory, with the same number of warheads remaining within the American border. Thus, a point of contact arose. It was not the only one, and was similar to that regarding a solution to the problem of strategic weapons. Hope vanished when the Americans rejected the justified demand that the transfer of the arms race to space be forbidden.

It is logical and understandable to see that the problems of nuclear disarmament are connected. They are concentrated into four areas -- offensive strategic weapons, intermediate-range missiles, the arms race in space, and nuclear tests. This is what the problem -- often described as a "package" -- looks like. The USSR was persuading its American partners to solve all parts of the "package" at the same time. After all, this is the quickest road to the goal and, moreover, it respects the principles of equal security since it does not tilt the scales which those four issues constitute.

The United States has chosen to erode and collapse the negotiations. It is willing to agree on certain things, and not to agree, or agree under certain conditions on others. As there will not be an overall agreement on the "package," we can say goodbye to the need for nuclear disarmament. Washington is on the defensive before the world public. Its policy is being increasingly criticized. As a result, those in the White House have resorted to a propaganda ploy: The USSR is guilty, as it insists on negotiating the four issues of nuclear disarmament as a whole.

The USSR is now untying the "package." It proposes to the United States: Let us get together on the elimination of intermediate-range missiles in Europe, as was agreed in Reykjavik. Should this happen, we will also withdraw operational-tactical missiles from Europe. They have been deployed in the GDR and the CSSR as the socialist response to the threat of American Pershing and cruise missiles. It then calls on the United States to begin talks immediately on ridding Europe in a fairly short time of a considerable part of the nuclear burden.

When we look at the Soviet stand on intermediate-range missiles, we see an admirable degree of flexibility, clear development, a shift of positions and proposals from lower to higher quality: significant examples of Soviet policy on nuclear disarmament. The USSR is not interested in opportunist's concerns, prestige, or power [mocenske] calculations. It searches for a road that will take mankind to its highest goal. This is the policy of unraveling contentious problems and pulling together threads which lead to an agreement.

It has many times been tellingly said that Europe is divided by a barrier of missiles, which also stand in the way of the continuing process of European security. As long as there are arsenals of nuclear weapons in Europe, our continent remains a potential cauldron of war. The USSR has found a momentous area in which it is possible to make good progress for the benefit of worldwide nuclear disarmament. The Western nuclear superpowers are not prepared to go ahead with a radical global solution. Therefore, even the policy of concrete steps in one of the four main issues contributes to the final goal. Soviet diplomacy has publicly informed American negotiators: Here is our proposal on the issue you claim to be willing to agree on. As such, let us have not merely words, but action: The goal is a Europe free of nuclear weapons!

We welcome that and we support it! The initial responses attest to the fact that in Europe and the world at large a wave of agreement is already rising, and demands are addressed to the Americans -- Accept! Hope is not born of nothing. Mikhail Gorbachev's proposal saw to it that hope would come into being. There is hope and it lives, it has clear and concrete outlines. It will be up to the European and world community to determine if they will permit it to be -- irresponsibly and malevolently -- thwarted.

The Soviet-American negotiations in Geneva -- thanks to the latest Soviet proposals -- were given a new stimulus that makes it, without a doubt, possible to guide them in all areas around the aritificially amassed obstacles. It is very important to agree on the limitation and elimination of strategic weapons, which is contingent upon the decision banning the arms buildup in space. The organic connection of the two issues cannot be ignored; they constitute the single care of the problem. The elimination of intermediate range missiles in Europe will be a tough struggle. It could become the key to the solution of the problem of nuclear disarmament on a world scale. And this is the reason why the Soviet proposal is a historical opportunity not only for Europe, but for all mankind.

FOJTIK ADDRESSES SEMINAR ON PARTY WORK

AU061417 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 20 Feb 87 p 2

[CTK report: "Principle of Open Policy; Comrade Jan Fojtik Addresses Seminar on Topical Tasks of Party work"]

[Text] Hradec Kralove (CTK) -- On Thursday [19 February] in Hradec Kralove, Jan Fojtik, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium candidate member and secretary, spoke on topical tasks in party work. The seminar was attended by members and candidate members of the CPCZ's East Bohemian Regional Committee and by other functionaries of the party aktiv in East Bohemia.

Jan Fojtik began his statement by focusing attention on the tasks connected with realizing the strategy of accelerating our society's socioeconomic development, and particularly on how we are succeeding to ensure the intensification of our national economy. He devoted primary attention to the problems of scientific-technical development and its application in production; to rebuilding the economic mechanism; and to the ideological aspects of this restructuring. "Wherever we look we see that one must resolve some complicated and unpostponable problem," Fojtik stated. "We cannot pretend we are not involved, everything is going smoothly, we are marching from success to success with banners flying, and we can stage mass reviews of successes every 6 months or even more frequently, as one tended to do some time ago. The people probably would not even come to such parades. Have the revolutionary times become a thing of the past? Is the period of great enthusiasm behind us? Yes, obviously the times one used to rush enthusiastically into the attack are a thing of the past. And this must be seen. One must not wonder why today's art, for instance, is not like the art of the past. This does not mean it is less ideological, or socially less weighty. The present also demands revolutionary feats, selflessness, high discipline; but it is far more sober and, I would say, it is also riper and more progressive. Realism is the basic virtue of today and has nothing in common with lowly pragmatism or opportunism. It demands respect for truth and a truthful analysis and appraisal of the situation. The so-called propaganda of successes -- which creates a curtain behind which one cannot see life in all its contradictions and complicated aspects, its multifaceted reality -- is very harmful. We convinced ourselves of this long ago. In fact, it used to add grist to the mill of right-wingers, who made maximum use of it in their famous pseudo-antidogmatic campaign. Such propaganda gives birth to illusions which are sooner or later followed by a hangover. Some people tell us today: Do not write or talk about problems so much; this creates the impression that we cannot escape from problems, that we do not know how to cope with them and that we are drowning in them. But we must write and talk about them. For us, too, the principle of open policy and of a broad flow of information is binding, particularly in our present times. However, should this create the impression that we do not know how to cope with difficulties? This would be too bad. The purpose of uncovering shortcomings is precisely to enable us to see problems better, to enable us to solve problems. We must direct our propaganda toward what we are doing to overcome difficulties, and toward the results of these efforts.

In this connection Comrade Jan Fojtik stressed the responsibility of the media as a platform of broad democracy and an instrument for solving problems. He also dealt at length with the impact which restructuring in the USSR has on our own development. He emphasized that it is not merely an internal matter of the CPSU and the Soviet people. Restructuring has a favorable impact on the entire socialist community, its development, the consolidation of the authority enjoyed by socialism in the world, and socialism's tasks in the struggle for peace and social progress.

CTK ALLEGES 'PRICE MANIPULATIONS,' VIOLATIONS

AU070540 Prague LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE in Czech 3 Mar 87 p 4

[CTK report: "Price Manipulations"]

[Text] According to a report from the Federal Price Office, spotchecks carried out in the period of the Seventh 5-Year Plan revealed price manipulations, valued at Kcs4.5 billion, by which economic organizations increased or tried to increase the prices of their products and services. Three-fourths of all checks turned up violations of price discipline. The machinations were of various types involving: direct costs and wages, overhead costs, markups and markdowns, the use of cheaper materials than those charged for, noncompliance with quality norms, and so on. Violations of price discipline in services include the incorrect invoicing of travel fees for work done outside repair shops and the failure to grant customers a rebate if the set deadline for repairs was not met. In retail trade, customers were charged for a greater quantity of merchandise than they actually got, lower quality was passed off as higher, and the like. As three out of four checks revealed a violation of price regulations, it must be assumed that a greater number of checks would produce substantially higher figures. This conduct by some managers has, on the one hand, a national economic aspect -- price increases depreciate the currency and impart an inflationary impulse to it -- and, on the other, a political aspect, as it affects the consumer. The methods used by some organizations with regard to prices are not only at odds with ethics and regulations, but also with the basic interests of the socialist economy and laws.

CUBAN CC MEMBER ACOSTA ARRIVES FOR TALKS

FL052317 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2132 GMT 5 Mar 87

[Text] Armando Acosta, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and national coordinator of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution, has arrived in Berlin for a working visit.

While in the GDR, Acosta will hold talks with National Front officials on bilateral relations, as well as other topics related to the work done by mass organizations in both countries.

SWAPO MEMBERS ARRIVE FOR 'PROFESSIONAL' TRAINING

AU070527 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 2 Mar 87 p 2

[Text] Berlin (ADN) -- Forty-five young members of the South-West African People's Organization (SWAPO) arrived in the GDR for professional training on Sunday [1 March]. They were cordially welcomed at Berlin's Schoenefeld Airport by Otto Heilmann, secretary of the GDR Solidarity Committee, and by members of the staff of SWAPO's office in the GDR. After attending a German-language course, the girls and boys will be instructed in trades important for the future of their country. As Otto Heilmann stressed, half of all annual donations made to central solidarity account No 444 is spent on the instruction and advanced training of young cadres from Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

Five wounded SWAPO fighters who will be treated in the GDR were also on board the special Interflug aircraft.

HONECKER CABLES AL-QADHDHAFI ON ANNIVERSARY

AU091133 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 2 Mar 87 p 2

[Text] East Berlin (ND) -- Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, has sent the following telegram to Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of Libya's 1 September Revolution:

On the 10th anniversary of the declaration establishing people's power, I convey to you and to the Libyan people the congratulations of the SED Central Committee, the State Council, and the people of the GDR.

The GDR follows with appreciation Libya's efforts to repel the imperialists' attempts at supremacy, and to further develop people's power.

Let me express my conviction that the traditional relations between our states and peoples will further deepen on this anti-imperialist basis in the interest of peace and progress.

Permit me to wish you good health and creative energy for your responsible work.

Erich Honecker
General secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council

BACKGROUND DETAILS TO ROMANIAN CONFLICT REPORTED

AU101257 Vienna KURIER in German 10 Mar 87 p 3

[Unattributed "Exclusive KURIER Article": "These Are The Reasons For Hungary's Clash With Romania"]

[Text] The open controversy between Bucharest and Budapest, which continued over the weekend, was ignited by the Bucharest government's new measures designed to suppress the Hungarian minority. KURIER has received exclusive information on this.

The roughly 2.5 million Hungarians in Romania (mainly in Transylvania) have recently been the target of greater repression:

-- All secondary and grammar schools in which classes were taught in Hungarian have been closed. All radio and television programs broadcast in the minority language were suddenly discontinued.

-- Evidence of Hungarian settlement in Transylvania dating from the 10th century is being methodically destroyed by the Romanians: The "HUNGARIAN PRESS OF TRANSYLVANIA," which has been banished and is now produced illegally, reports that the excavations north of Alba Iulia near Deva were even covered with concrete.

-- The collection of Hungarian books at the University Library in Cluj have been declared "not usable" by the authorities for containing "nationalist" tendencies. They have since been removed. Hungarian museums in Transylvania are being plundered and the exhibits are being brought to Bucharest.

-- The hatred between the ethnic groups is deliberately fanned by the Romanian Communist Party. In January the party leadership had the Romanians around Cluj brought into the city to mark the national day, [Romania's national day is on 23 August; unification of the principalities of Moldavia and Wallachia in 1859 is celebrated on 24 January] a measure which promptly lead to riots. Hungarian shops were demolished, and Hungarians were beaten up in the streets by a Romanian mob shouting slogans such as: "Long live Cluj free of Hungarians!" and "Romanians, settle up with the Hungarians!"

-- According to the "HUNGARIAN PRESS OF TRANSYLVANIA", military members of the Hungarian minority are being increasingly transferred to delinquent battalions. In a unit in Medgidia, the 14 soldiers of German origin and the 2 troopers of Hungarian origin had to sort broken glass from the trash heaps with their bare hands.

-- Again and again there have been mysterious deaths. In January, for instance, writer Istvan Suto allegedly "froze to death" on a train trip from Tirgu Mures to Sintu Gheorge. No autopsy was permitted, and the priest was ordered by the secret police not to may any "insinuations" during the funeral service.

BUDAPEST RESPONDS TO DISSIDENT WRITERS' ATTACKS

LD111255 Budapest in Hungarian to Australia and New Zealand 1000 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] The elements of an unparalleled argument have recently been published in ELET ES TRODALOM. At the end of November, during the general meeting of the Writers' Association, several speakers openly attacked the government's policies. Some of these writers were elected to the governing body.

Some 30 writers resigned from the association in protest; one of them, Sandor Fekete, accused the Writers' Association, in ELET ES IRODALOM, of having stepped onto the path of political adventure.

The latest edition of EL ES IRODALOM carries the statement of the governing body of the Writers' Association enying Fekete's accusation, saying that until now public opinion has been misinformed on this matter. In addition to this declaration, the paper carries a full-page article by a recognized dissident author, (Istvan Oersi). Arguing with Sandor Fekete, he urges that literature should be able to organize itself into various directions, and around periodicals and publishing houses. (Oersi) acknowledges that at the meeting of the Writers' Association old-conservative, nationalist, and even racist views were aired. However, he thinks that when restrictions are relaxed, wise and true things are accompanied by muddled thoughts, and that this is the first moment of cleansing.

The article also contains decidely strong attacks saying, for example, that the government does not have enough self-confidence for open debate and fears the political consequences of economic reform.

Perhaps we are not mistaken in saying that such a dissident piece of writing has not appeared in the Hungarian press in the past 30 years. ELET ES IRODALOM immediately follows this with Sandor Fekete's reply, which says that in the past 1 or 2 decades political reforms with a very profound effect have indeed taken place in Hungary. Proof of this can be seen by the absence of reprisals following the general meeting of the Writers' Association. Other examples include elections with multiple candidates, where great public figures can also lose, and that the so-called opposition, albeit under police supervision, can still function in Hungary without the threat of imprisonment. It is also a political achievement that hundreds of thousands of people travel to the West each year. Sandor Fekete goes on to say that those who attack the governing body at home or from Western propaganda forums, are only providing excuses for those who oppose reforms.

He closes his article with the thought that we are on the verge of a new phase of national renewal in which every well-intentioned writer can find his place, even if he thought differently yesterday.

UK'S HOWE DEPARTS, SEEN OFF BY VARKONYI

LD101811 Budapest MTI in English 1734 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Budapest, March 10 (MTI) -- Concluding his official visit, Sir Geoffrey Howe, secretary of state for foreign and Commonwealth affairs of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, left Hungary on Tuesday. At Budapest's Ferihegy Airport he was seen off by his host Foreign Minister Peter Varkonyi. Present at the airport was Leonard Vincent Appleyard, ambassador of the United Kingdom to Hungary.

SZUROS INTERVIEWED ON FOREIGN POLICY CHALLENGES

LD101245 Budapest MTI in English 1013 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Budapest, March 10 (MTI) -- In an article entitled "International Situation, Workers Movement -- New Requirements" and published in the March issue of "PARTELET" (PARTY LIFE), the periodical of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, HSWP CC Secretary Matyas Szuros analyses the main characteristics of the international situation, topical issues related to the socio-economic development of the socialist countries and the principle lines of Hungary's foreign political activity.

"International relations are clouded by elements of lasting tension and confrontation even today. On the other hand, there is the growing effect of favourable tendencies which have developed over the past few years, mainly in the field of East-West relations...Reykjavik has made it even clearer to the world's political public opinion the novel approach to international security which has recently characterized the foreign policies of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. Extensive agreement and support have been extended throughout the world to the Soviet position taken in Reykjavik in the form of a comprehensive package of thorough and generous initiatives based on the novel approach to nuclear disarmament. We share the view that Reykjavik was not only a single occasion, but the stage of a long-term process which is just making its effects and consequences felt in earnest. Obviously, it takes time, patience and further diplomatic moves for the other party to duly consider the compromise proposals of the Soviet Union and develop the compromising spirit which was still non-existent in Reykjavik.

"A positive event of international political life was the first stage of the Vienna follow-up meeting, the course of which was decisively influenced by the initiating attitude of the socialist countries," says Matyas Szuros, and points to the undeniable dominant role of the two great powers in influencing international relations. However, small countries also have the opportunity to make substantive contributions to the cause of security and cooperation, Matyas Szuros says.

"Based on this recognition, our country has taken an active share also in the period behind in maintaining the East-West dialogue and expanding relations. Our foreign policy is primarily aimed at creating ever more favourable international conditions for internal development. We start from realities and will strive to attain our goals through the combined enforcement of firm principles and flexible practice in the future, too. We remain prepared to shoulder a share commensurate with our possibilities in drafting and realizing concepts and proposals which produce a beneficial impact on international relations, and to take the initiative in rendering the process of detente deeper and lasting. We invariably strive to consistently enforce in our foreign policy our interests attached to the consolidation of European security and cooperation, and to actively participate as a member of the socialist community in formulating and achieving the common goals serving this end."

Further on Matyas Szuros treats the challenges faced by the socialist countries in the mid-1980s. He points out that the switch-over in the European socialist countries to an intensive course of development is a slow and controversial process.

"We cannot presume that our socialist order will be automatically able to ward off the external and internal challenges. All this calls for substantial changes in the methods of socialist construction and the renewal of economic management, political system, culture and thinking. This is necessitated not only by our socialist aims and stable home political life, but also by the long-term guaranteeing of the balance of power between the two military-political alliance systems and the preservation of the international scope of movement of the socialist countries."

Matyas Szuros then points out that a process of creating and developing a novel relationship among the socialist countries on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and in compliance with the principles of equality, independence and internationalism has been under way over the past more than three decades.

"Multi-faceted forms and mechanisms of cooperation have been created within the Warsaw Treaty and the Council of Mutual Economic Assistance, but not all of them correspond to the requirements posed by the radical world economic and world political changes which have taken place since the mid-1970s.

The latest congresses of the fraternal parties indicate progress in elaborating the national strategies dovetailing with the new situation and new demands. Our party assessed the 27th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union as an outstanding event also from the point of view of the consistent and simultaneous enforcement of the general laws of socialism and the national characteristics. Experience gained by the other fraternal parties also confirm that, as socialism is going to be built in a national-state framework within a historically foreseeable time, we have to pay adequate attention to the national factors and interests in the course of strengthening the cooperation of the socialist countries.

"At present the updating of cooperation is most pressing in the economic sphere. Several fraternal party congresses raised the idea of transforming CMEA cooperation, mainly in order to accelerate technical-scientific progress. Eliminating the routine, bureaucratic features from CMEA work is also indispensable...signs indicate that it has become unavoidable to create a system of economic conditions for cooperation within the CMEA, which should equally cover the price system, the financial, settlement and credit system, the issue of the common currency fulfilling real money functions, the financing of joint investments and joint ventures and the sharing of economic achievements."

"There are several factors proving the increased role of cultural, humanitarian coperation in international politics. Experience from the Budapest cultural forum and other international conferences has convinced us that the socialist countries can produce considerable results in this field, and have the conditions for taking an offensive stand. The strengthening of our cooperation may explore furher reserves in this respect. The historically emerging condition that in some of our countries have national minority populations is major circumstance of our relations. One reason why we attach particular importance to this issue is that Europe's largest national minority is Hungarian. Experience shows it expedient to start from the basic principle that the existence of the nationalities does not necessarily preserve the inherited elements of distrust. On the contrary: through their dual affiliation, the national minorities can act as a link between our countries and peoples building socialism and working to strengthen our many-sided cooperation. It is a common responsibility to help the underlying favourable opportunity come to prevail, which depends primarily on the political will of the parties and governments. With respect to the constructive treatment of these issues that serve mutual interests, the practice developed with Yugoslavia deserves mention, and we have positive experiences also with respect to the Hungarian-Czechoslovak relation. Practice allows to suggest that the minority issue is not solely an internal affair, but a problem that has indications beyond the cooperation of the socialist countries and also has regional and all-European connections.

One of the most important tasks in the cooperation of our parties today is to generalize on a high level the experiences of the new phase of social development and analyse amidst the present circumstances and demands the ways of enforcing the common laws and also to explore the national characteristics, starting from the principles of Marxism-Leninism," Matyas Szuros points out in "PARTELET".

FINANCE MINISTER DISCUSSES NEW TAX REFORMS

LD101335 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1100 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] A 2-day scientific conference has begun at the Academy of Sciences. The current status of industrial enterprises and the possibilities for their development are being examined. More than 400 researchers and specialists are debating how structural flexibility and changes in Hungarian industrial production can be accelerated.

In the following interview Peter Marvanyi asks Finance Minister Peter Medgyessy to address these questions:

[Begin recording] [Medgyessy] During the past 2 years monetary policy has relaxed its grip to some extent; At the same time the financial system was unable to provide the necessary help to efficient enterprises. These two factors acting together were sufficient for the foreign trade balance and the balance of payments to develop unfavorably. What we need is a more consistent policy of regulating incomes, and more consistent help for enterprises that are capable of development, of quick changes in their structure and of a greater improvement in their efficiency.

[Marvanyi] Will the regulatory system for 1988 reflect this spirit?

[Medgyessy] We are preparing a change of considerable magnitude for 1988. This will affect the entire price and financial system.

[Marvanyi] Could you outline it briefly?

[Medgyessy] Steps will be taken in two directions, by introducing a value-added tax and a personal income tax. It must be emphasized that this change will affect the entire structure of taxation. One can only interpret it in terms of the economic reform as a whole. This will be an important tool within the reform, but will not solve every problem. The whole process of reform must be advanced in some way, and tax reform is an important element in this process.

We are also working on the abolition of various taxes. For example, we are thinking of doing away with the wealth tax, the revenue tax, or a part of it, and the accumulation tax. We have calculated that this will lead to a reduction in the producer price level, which in turn will induce a steady structural change in both production and consumption.

I consider it very important that 1987 be a success. In the interest of attaining this, we need certain measures. As I have mentioned, this means in part a stricter monetary policy, the realization of more rigorous regulators, a reduction in budgetary expenditure -- this is not intended to increase revenues, because we do not consider that to be timely or beneficial now. We expect that the measures we want to introduce will eventually stimulate an increase in state revenues as well.

I would include among these steps, which will be published within the next few days in MAGYAR KOEZLOENY, a measure reducing the revenue tax paid by the most efficient enterprises. This measure will not apply to the entire Hungarian economy, but only to a specified sphere within the processing industry, which in our view will play the primary role in this structural change.

We would very much like savings -- both the savings of the enterprises and of individuals -- to continue growing. We shall introduce new measures to promote this as well. After all, these funds could lay the foundation for the structural change and more rapid growth later on. [end recording]

CZYREK MEETS SHULTZ, HOLDS TALKS DURING U.S. TRIP

Discusses Improved Relations

LD110936 Warsaw PAP in English 0958 GMT 11 Mar 87

[By PAP correspondent Jerzy Gorski]

[Text] Washington, March 11 -- On the last day of the visit to the U.S. yesterday, head of the Sejm Foreign Affairs Committee Jozef Czyrek and the accompanying deputies held a series of meetings with heads of leading ministries of the American Government.

The talks covered bilateral relations, economic cooperation in the conditions of the lifting of American restrictions, and the most important problems of the international situation.

Jozef Czyrek and the deputies met with U.S. State Secretary George Shultz and with U.S. Deputy State Secretary John Whitehead. They also participated in a "round table" discussion with senior representatives of the U.S. State Department.

In a direct and matter-of-fact talk with George Shultz, the sides focused on the most importance steps leading to improvement and development of Polish-American relations.

Cited on Sanctions

LD101101 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 2100 GMT 5 Mar 87

[Text] Today's edition of THE WASHINGTON POST carried an article discussing a statement by Jozef Czyrek, chairman of the Sejm Foreign Relations Commission, who is visiting the United States. His remarks covered the prospects for the development of Polish-U.S. relations after the lifting of sanctions imposed on our country by the Reagan administration. Jozef Czyrek said the removal of the discriminatory U.S. sanctions opens the way for an exchange of ambassadors, which will be the subject of talks with George Shultz next week. Poland expects the losses incurred as a result of the sanctions to be overcome within the framework of mutually advantageous cooperation.

Gives News Conference

AU101628 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 6 Mar 87 p 6

[Zbigniew Broniarek report: "The Desire To Achieve Progress in Polish-U.S. Relations"]

[Text] A meeting with the press at the Polish Embassy, a working breakfast given by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and talks with Professor Zbigniew Brzezinski were the three major events on Thursday's agenda for Jozef Czyrek, head of the Sejm Foreign Affairs Commission, and a delegation of Sejm deputies, who are visiting Washington.

"It is a question of raising the structure of Polish-American relations, which was erected in the seventies, from the ruins. To provide a historical analogy, we would like to do the same thing we did after the war to Warsaw and other Polish cities destroyed in the conflict. This was a key statement that Jozef Czyrek made during the embassy meeting, and it characterized his entire visit.

The visit's scope clearly confirms this thesis since the contacts the delegation and its head are making encompass all important areas of U.S. political life. However, it is not only a question of the visit's scope but also of the atmosphere and nature of these contacts. Jozef Czyrek described the atmosphere at his meetings as open, sincere, and marked by a desire for progress in bilateral relations. He said: "We are pleased with the way the trip has gone thus far."

Jozef Czyrek stressed that the delegation includes: a representative of the ZSL, an outstanding scholar who is rector of Poland's oldest university, a person with no party affiliation, and a Catholic activist who represents the church. Jozef Czyrek noted that the trip is only the start of the process of rebuilding interparliamentary links between Poland and the United States. He also emphasized that parliaments reflect the diverse nature of political forces in individual states, which means that contacts between parliaments are, ipso facto, contacts between these forces.

An important part of the news conference was devoted to Polish domestic affairs, especially socialist pluralism and its limits. Jozef Czyrek said this form of pluralism -- based on respect for ideological diversity -- is being developed in Poland. On the other hand, pluralism directed against Poland's fundamental national interests is not and will not be permitted. As one of the questions touched on Kuron's recent illegal news conference, the head of the Polish delegation noted that Kuron failed to satisfy Poland's requirements. He said: "In the West, and that includes the United States, anyone wanting to organize a demonstration must notify the authorities and provide information as to when and where it will be held and the number of participants expected. Regulations of the very same type exist in Poland. As such, you should not expect more of socialist democracy, which is in the process of being developed, than you do of the bourgeois system."

Deputy Aleksander Legatowicz, who represents Catholic circles in the Sejm, explained that all responsible forces in Poland agree that the country's problems -- and they are many and complicated -- can be solved only through dialogue. Legatowicz' statement contained criticism of the Western press. He said: "I know you are interested in what the government is doing and the activities of the so-called opposition, but I have not noted much interest in what we are doing -- independent representatives of society, people who are engaged in dialogue and preserve their own point of view."

A large part of the meeting was devoted to economic matters. Jozef Czyrek set out the matter clearly: "We have not come here to ask for help. We are only asking for the principle of equal rights to be respected in economic relations. The lifting of the remaining sanctions is a step in that direction. However, it is a question of this being more than a purely formal move, and of its being followed by practical measures."

WARSAW PAPER VIEWS NATION'S EXPORTS, U.S. MARKET

AU070537 Warsaw ZYCIE WARSZAWY in Polish 3 Mar 87 p 5

[Article signed by P.T.: "A Return to Normality"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Poland and the United States first gave each other most-favored-nation status in the middle of 1931 on the basis of the bilateral "Treaty on Friendship, Trade, and Consular Rights." The "Trade Agreement Extension Act" of 1951 obliged the President of the United States to suspend or withdraw facilities granted to socialist countries under trade accords concluded with Washington. In the case of Poland, this situation persisted until 1960.

The most-favored-nation status was suspended for a second time toward the end of 1982. Duty on Polish goods ceased to be levied according to the rates in the first, basic column of American tariffs. Payments made at the point of entry increased by an average of between 10 and 60 percent. Industrial exports were most heavily affected. Tools, bearings, and glass products could not survive these changes in the terms of competition. However, ham was saved, as the duty in both columns was the same. Representatives of Polish trade agencies in the United States estimated in 1983 that the loss resulting from the suspension of the most-favored-nation status amounted to $70 million.

The American President's recent decision to restore this status means Polish goods will be treated just like the majority of other goods competing in the United States. The problem is that this was not the situation for 4 and 1/2 years. Many producers dropped out of the U.S. market, the sales network contracted, and in some instances we were replaced for good.

Today, representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Trade say we cannot expect miracles following the restoration of the most-favored-nation status. It will definitely not be possible to make up the lost ground in a year or even in twice that time. The process of rebuilding our sales network and renewing lost contacts will take some time. What is more, our producers are now out of the habit of meeting the demands of the American market. It is still difficult to find good products for export, and the weak dollar makes such exports less profitable.

The most recent assessments made by 15 central trade agencies -- those that were most affected by the sanctions -- concerning the possibility of invigorating Polish-American trade are full of reservations. Viewed from the legal angle, there has been a return to normal trade relations, but it will definitely take Polish producers a long time to recover their former positions.

PRC FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES, MEETS ORZECHOWSKI

LD101917 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1830 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian has arrived in Poland on an official visit.

Wu Xueqianm CPC Politburo member and minister of foreign affairs, was received at the Belvedere Palace and hour and a half ago by Wojceich Jaruzelski, PZPR Central Committee first secretary and chairman of the Council of State. Their talks included high regards for the development of friendly relations and versatile cooperation between both states and nations. Views were exchanged on current international issues, and on the more important aspects of the situation in the two countries.

The Chinese guest laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier this afternoon and signed the visitors book.

Minister Wu Xueqian then met with Minister Marian Orzechowski at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The state of and prospects for bilateral ties were discussed. Opinions were exchanged on the international situation, with emphasis on questions of peace and disarmament. Plenary talks have also begun between the Chinese and Polish delegations under both ministers.

Orzechowski Praises Relations

LD110959 Warsaw PAP in English 2148 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Report on Polish Foreign Minister Marian Orzechowski's remarks at a meeting with PRC Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian in Warsaw on 10 March]

[Text] Warsaw, March 10: Greeting the Chinese guest Marian Orzechowski stated that as a result of bilateral aims and efforts cooperation between both nations and countries has entered a qualitatively new stage which has begun with last year's visit of PUWP CC First Secretary, President of the Council of State Wojciech Jaruzelski to Beijing. I think that it will be no exaggeration to describe it as a breakthrough in the history of Polish-Chinese relations, stated the foreign affairs minister.

The international situation is very complicated, he said. The common threat stemming from the arms race, from unequal economic relations and regional conflicts has not decreased. We are worried about trends in the policies of some imperialist circles of solving international problems in an arbitrary way, at times with the use of force, in the name of implementing their egoistic interests. The correct road leading to a world without nuclear weapons, outlined by the Soviet leader, blocks the "Star Wars" plans aimed at achieving military superiority by imperialism and at tipping the strategic balance in the world, stated Orzechowski.

We are a European state. The situation on this continent is the topic of our special concern. We identify our own security with the security of all of Europe. Like our allies in the Warsaw Treaty we do not cease in our efforts aimed at further deepening the process of security, confidence and cooperation in all fields and protecting the common heritage of our continent. The inviolability of the political-territorial realities, based on agreements from Yalta and Potsdam are an indispensable condition for preserving lasting peace in Europe. Any attempts to question the legal-international foundations of the agreed territorial-political status quo in Europe are unacceptable and dangerous. Bearing this in mind we recall with thankfulness the support granted to us by China, from the very start of People's Poland, support for our border on the Odra and Nysa rivers.

We maintain positive relations with states of other regions, including that of the great continent of Asia and the Pacific Ocean region, the significance of which is growing so notably in the modern world. We understand the aspirations of the nations living there for a peaceful and secure existence. We lend our support to the initiatives and efforts of states of that region directed at stengthening peace, security and lowering tensions. In this context we refer with respect to the proposals of Mikhail Gorbachev forwarded in Vladivostok, continued the Polish foreign affairs minister.

We highly assess the decision of the Government of the People's Republic of China, a superpower with nuclear weapons at its disposal, to sign a treaty on creating a nuclear-free zone in the region of the South Pacific. We greet with satisfaction the activity of the Non-Aligned Movement to defend peace and common disarmament.

We are convinced that the consistent cooperation of socialist states on the international arena contributes to the checking of the arms race. We greet with satisfaction your country's reconstruction of political contacts and the development of economic relations with the socialist countries of Europe, stated Orzechowski.

Speaking about the international siuation Orzechowski stated: "We want to meet the challenges of modern times and the coming 21st century. We have goals charted out by the 9th and 10th congress -- the democratization of our political system and economic reform. We are trying to provide the most broad frames for national agreement. An improvement in the social climate is clear."

At the end of his address the minister expressed profound conviction that the visit of the Chinese minister of foreign affairs to Poland and the talks held with the party-state leadership would have great significance for strengthening the long-term comprehensive development of relations and cooperation between People's Poland and People's China in the interest of socialism deepening ties between all socialist countries for the cause of peace.

Wu Xueqian Discusses Reform

LD111009 Warsaw PAP in English 2240 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Report on PRC Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian's remarks at a meeting with Polish Foreign Minister Marian Orzechowski in Warsaw on 10 March]

[Text] Warsaw, March 10: Chinese Foreign Affairs Minister Wu Xueqian stated that after 1978 China, following the direction of the line mapped out at the 3rd plenum of the 11th term of the Chinese Communist Party, entered a new period, a period characterized by political stability and unity, and constant development of the economy.

The "line of the third plenum" means in short the following: A line of constructing socialism in specific Chinese conditions stemming from the Chinese reality. In following this line we will continue to abide by the four key principles, conduct a reform of the economic and political system, ceaselessly perfect socialist democracy and law-abidingness, implement the policy of reviving the economy and opening to the world and, what follows, strongly strive to build our country into a powerful socialist state with Chinese traits, stated Wu Xueqian.

Referring to the international situation Wu Xueqian stated that in order to successfully continue building socialism, both the Chinese and Polish nations needed lasting peace. We are full of respect and appreciation for People's Poland which has made indefatigable efforts to preserve peace in Europe and the world. China steadfastly pursues an independent and peaceful foreign policy and consistently devoted its efforts to the great cause of lowering tension and preserving global peace. We think that in the matter of peace, a matter which pertains to the fate of all mankind, all the countries of the world, be it great or small, powerful or weak, have the right of voice and can introduce their contribution. In order for peace to reign in the world relations between various countries should be based on the foundation of the five priciples of peaceful co-existence. Countries with varying social systems should abide by these priciples in mutual relations and socialist countries should abide by these priciples the more so, stated the Chinese foreign affairs minister.

Both China and Poland need to pursue reform, to develop the economy and upgrade the living standards of their populations in stable political and social conditions. Both our countries wish to put into effect lasting peace and detente. In recent years China and Poland have achieved evident progress in mutual relations in the political, economic, scientific-technical and cultural fields. One should especially stress that the visit of PUWP CC first secretary, president of the State Council of Poland Wojciech Jaruzelski to our country in September last year started a new period of development, in Chinese-Polish relations. In June this year acting general secretary of the CCP CC and premier of the State Council of People's China Zhao Ziyang will pay a visit to Poland.

We are convinced that the visit will also significantly strengthen and consolidate friendly cooperation between China and Poland. Full respect for the internal and foreign policies pursued by the socialist countries of Eastern Europe which they have worked out in line with the interests of their own countries with consideration given to the real situation in their respective country, is one of our basic guidelines. In the future, as we do now, we will be directed by this guideline in our relations with Poland and other socialist countries of Eastern Europe, concluded Minister Wu Xueqian.

FOREIGN OBSERVERS TO WITNESS 'OPAL 87' EXERCISES

LD102316 Warsaw PAP in English 2222 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Warsaw, March 10 -- On March 9, soldiers of the Polish 12th Mechanized Division started preparations for the Opal '87 exercises on a testing ground. March 12 and 13, the overall numerical force of soldiers taking part in the exercises will amount to 18,000. Exactly then, military observers from the states-signatories to the CSCE will be on the testing ground near Drawsko Pomorskie, north-western Poland.

The Opal '87 are the first exercises of the Polish People's Army in 11 years to which foreign observers were invited. This became possible thanks to agreements signed on September 22, 1986 at the Stockholm Conference on Confidence and Security Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe.

Large scale military manoeuvres pose a threat of turning into a real conflict. The significance of the Stockholm Conference's final document consists in limiting the impetus of military activity and introducing a duty to disclose its annual plans. The document obligates to notify about exercises with the participation of 13,000 and more soldiers, to invite observers to exercises with the participation of at least 18,000 soldiers and makes it possible to inspect military activity on the territory of every state-signatory to the final document.

Poland entirely met the obligation to disclose [an] annual calendar plan of its military activity. Poland gave proper information and notified CSCE states about the Opal '87 exercises in due time.

Observers from 22 countries will be able to fully use their powers and the Polish Army ensures all technical conditions to them as envisaged by the Stockholm Conference's final document.

These conditions are necessary to as best as possible carry out missions entrusted to observers by the states sending them. The operational and tactical assumption of the Opal '87 exercises reflects defensive character of Polish military doctrine. The Opal '87 exercises prove credibility of the Polish policy in the cause of detente and confidence building in Europe.

BEJGER, DELEGATION VISIT ANGOLA, ZIMBABWE

For reportage on visits to Angola and Zimbabwe by a PZPR delegation led by Stanislaw Bejger, candidate member of the PZPR Politburo, including talks with Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and communiques on inter-party cooperation, see the Southern Africa section of the 6 March Middle East & Africa DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU CONTINUES VISIT TO INDIA

Ceausescu Meets President Singh

AU101256 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1212 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] New Delhi /AGERPRES/ 10/03/1987 -- On March 10, Romania's President Nicolae Ceausescu and Mme Elena Ceausescu met with President Giani Zail Singh of the Republic of India at "Rashtrapati Bhavan" Palace.

President Giani Zail Singh warmly welcomed the visit President Nicolae Ceausescu and Mme Elena Ceausescu are paying to India, which goes down as an outstanding event in the evolution of traditional relations between the two countries. He also expressed his satisfaction at meeting Romania's president and talking with him about questions of mutual interest.

President Nicolae Ceausescu is a great friend of India, and my country is proud of its friendship with Romania, said Giani Zail Singh.

India's president was highly appreciative of President Nicolae Ceausescu's activity and initiatives for the promotion of international peace and understanding.

President Nicolae Ceausescu thanked for the invitation of visiting India, for the warm hospitality with which they were welcomed, showing that he saw in it an expression of the feelings of high esteem and friendship the two peoples nurture for one another.

The Romanian head of state also expressed his belief that the dialogue and talks as well as the understandings to be reached would confer new dimensions on the friendly ties between Romania and India.

Presidents Nicolae Ceausescu and Giani Zail Singh exchanged views on the ways and means to more intensely develop the manysided cooperation between the two countries. The talks focused on the international situation.

Concern was shown over the continuation of the arms race, over the highly dangerous nuclear tests, and the need was underlined that all countries should energetically act for disarmament, for the conclusion of concrete accords on arms cut and, eventually, their scrapping. In the context, appreciation was shown for the recent proposals of the Soviet Union regarding the withdrawal of intermediate-range missiles from Europe, and the conviction was expressed that an accord was possible and necessary.

The exchange of views on other principal aspects of the international life pointed to the need for a growing role of the small and medium-sized, nonaligned and developing countries in the settlement of the major issues facing mankind. In that respect the two heads of state declared for a global solution to underdevelopment questions and for further actions with a view to establishing a new world economic order.

It was assessed that the broad promotion of Romanian-Indian cooperation in the political, economic, technical, scientific, cultural and other spheres of activity corresponded to both peoples' wish and aspirations for peace and progress, and was in their interest, in the interests of detente and cooperation among nations.

The interview passed in an atmosphere of warm friendship, mutual esteem and understanding.

Ceausescu, Gandhi Hold Talks

AU101836 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1702 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Delhi AGERPRES, March 10, 1987 -- Official talks took place on March 10 at the Rashtrapati Bhavan Palace between President Nicolae Ceausescu of Romania together with Mme Elena Ceausescu and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi of the Republic of India.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi warmly welcomed that time too, President Nicolae Ceausescu and Mme Elena Ceausescu and greeted their visit to India, considering that it marked a moment of outstanding importance in the development of the relations between the two countries.

President Nicolae Ceausescu thanked in his behalf and in behalf of Mme Elena Ceausescu for the wishes and feelings expressed and addressed the Indian premier a warm salute. The Romanian head of state stressed that his new visit was expression of the good relations of friendship and collaboration between Romania and India, between the two people, relations established along the years, as well as of the mutual wish to further give these relations an ever richer content and ever more lasting bases.

President Nicolae Ceausescu and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi had a wide exchange of views on the evolution of the Romanian-Indian relations, highlighting the importance of the summit dialogue as an essential factor in the development of the fertile collaboration between the two countries, both on a bilateral plane and in international life. In this content, emphasis was placed on the outstanding importance of the current talks meant to give new dimensions to the Romanian-Indian collaboration.

During the talks they highlighted the good relations between Romania and India, that steadily amplified and consolidated on the basis of fully equal rights, mutual regard and advantge. Emphasis was plaed on the progress marked in the political, economic, technological, scientific and cultural domains, as well as on the possibilities at hand for a more intense expansion of the Romanian-Indian links. It was assessed that the current potential of the two countries' economies provided conditions for the intensification and diversification of the economic relations, particularly of the cooperation in extractive industry, metallurgy, power and oil, machine-building, as well as for augmenting and intensification of the commercial exchanges. Emphasis was placed on the importance of the foundation of joint companies in various domains of mutual interests, as well as of developing the collaboration in third markets. It was assessed that wide possibilities existed for the general development of the bilateral economic relations, of the collaboration and cooperation in production, upon stable and lasting bases, for the realization of important economic projects. It was also covenanted that action be taken toward enlarging the collaboration in science and technology, as well as toward taking advantage of the extant possibilities of collabortion in culture, education and other domains.

The confidence was expressed that the steady expansion of the collaboration between Romania and India was in the interests of both countries and peoples, of the cause of peace and understanding among nations.

President Nicolae Ceausescu and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi also exchanged views at length on current aspects of the world political life.

Assessing that the international situation kept being grave and complex, they stressed the need for all peoples, all progressive forces everywhere to join efforts for halting the dangerous course of events toward tension and war, toward a nuclear catastrophe, for the affirmation of the policy of detente, security, peace, understanding and broad collaboration among all nations of the world.

During the talks it was emphasized that the fundamental issue of our epoch was the halting of the arms race, the passage to disarmament, nuclear above all, the securing of peace in the world. In this frame, the need was highlighted for nuclear tests and outer space militarization to be halted, for adequate understandings to be achieved toward eliminating the nuclear missiles, liquidating all nuclear weapons, reducing the conventional weapons and military expenditures, with the thus released means having to be used for the economic and social progress of the peoples, especially of the developing ones. The importance of the steps taken by Romania for a five per cent cut of weapons, troops and military expenditures was stressed in that context.

It was assessed that the achievement of security and cooperation in Europe would bear positive influence on the whole international political life, would accord with the interests of all nations of the world.

The recent Soviet proposals on the withdrawal of the medium-range missiles from Europe were welcomed in that respect.

President Nicolae Ceausescu and Premier Rajiv Gandhi stressed the need for force and threat of force to be eliminated from international life, for any military conflict to be ended, and the imperative of all disputed issues to be settled by peaceful means, by direct negotiations between the parties concerned as well as through the agency of the international bodies.

Condemning South Africa's aggressive actions against the neighbouring independent and sovereign states, President Nicolae Ceausescu and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi reiterated the two countries' solidarity with the Namibian people's struggle under the SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] leadership for independence, with the African peoples' struggle for the complete eradication of colonialism, for the abolition of the racist and apartheid policies.

Emphasis was placed on the importance of consolidating the collaboration and unity of action of the developing countries for their independent economic and social progress, for the organization of an international conference within the UN in view of the global settlement of the issues of underdevelopment, including the extremely big foreign debts of those states, of establishing a new world economic order.

Appreciating the activity of the Nonaligned Movement, India's constructive role within it, Romania's president pointed out that under the circumstances everything possible had to be done for increasing their contribution to the settlement of the grave issues facing mankind.

Expressing satisfaction at the fine collaboration between Romania and India on an international plane, President Nicolae Ceausescu and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi reiterated the two countries' determination to develop their collaboration within the UN and other international bodies, with the Group of 77 and the Nonaligned Movement, to actively contribute to the affirmation of the policy of detente, disarmament, collaboration, and peace in the world.

Then the talks continued in plenum, with the participation of the two delegations. The participants included Dimitrie Ancuta, deputy prime minister; Ioan Totu, minister of foreign affairs; Constantin Mitea, adviser to the president; other Romanian officials.

For India the participants included P. Shiv Shankar, minister of commerce, K.C. Pant, minister of steel and mines, E. Faleiro, minister of state, the Ministry of External Affairs; Brahm Dutt, minister of state for petroleum and gas; other officials.

The delegations reported the results of the talks conducted, the accords reached, in the spirit of the Romanian-Indian summit dialogue in connection with the development of the economic exchanges, of collaboration and cooperation in various domains of mutual interest.

President Nicolae Ceausescu and Premier Rajiv Gandhi appreciated the results of the talks conducted by the two delegations, stressing that they provided a fine basis for the intensification of the relations and collaboration on multiple planes, which accorded with the interests of the two peoples, of Romania's and India's economic development and progress.

The talks proceeded in an atmosphere of warm friendship, mutual esteem and understanding.

Delhi Coverage of Visit

For Delhi coverage of the visit to India by Secretary General Ceausescu, including talks held with Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and the signing of economic and technical agreements, see the India section of the 11 March South Asia DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

MEDIA FOCUS ON ENERGY ISSUES DURING FEBRUARY

AU061720 [Editorial report] After a noticeable slackening of media exhortations on energy-related issues toward the end of January -- largely due to attention being shifted to other domestic events, such as Nicolae Ceausescu's birthday -- Bucharest radio and Romanian dailies continued their intensive campaign on energy topics throughout February. The drive features slogans, articles, and reports on conservation measures, the commissioning of new generating plants, and tasks in coal-mining and oil extraction as well as on local questions of repair, order, and discipline.

The peak of this preoccupation with energy came in the days immediately preceding and following the February 6 "Decree on Some Measures for Rationing Natural Gas and Electric Power," issued by the State Council of the SR of Romania and published in the 7 February editions of SCINTEIA and ROMANIA LIBERA. Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian on these days led its major newscasts with an extensive series of pieces on energy dealing with "sustained activity" throughout the country to "strictly save all energy resources, ensure proper energy supplies for all areas, and observe precise daily and hourly energy quotas established for each enterprise, county, and branch."

The dailies from 5-13 February feature a large number of slogans, articles, and reports on the meaning, significance, and implementation of the State Council decree, averaging 3,000-6,000 words per edition, with the items usually taking up part of page one and about half or even more of an inside page.

Under the common headline "Energy, A Vital Problem of the National Economy and All of Us," the 10 February edition of ROMANIA LIBERA devotes all of page 3 to conservation in various enterprises and to steps to "operate power plants at planned capacity, thus boosting the generation of energy." The authors of the articles cite successes at a number of enterprises in Brasov, Bacau, and Gorj Counties, while stressing that "more should be done everywhere to attain even better results."

From 14 February to the end of the month, the dailies carry fewer items on the energy problem, usually grouped together on an inside page, with overall wordage not exceeding 2,000 words per issue. They deal with measures to ensure proper conservation of energy and to extract larger quantities of crude oil and coal. They also highlight the need to "deliver equipment and spare partsw on schedule and in excess of plan tasks," and to "recover materials and substantially cut back on material and energy consumption during peak hours." An article by Gheorghe Ionita in SCINTEIA on 24 February entitled "We Will Deliver All Energy Equipment on Schedule and Under Best Conditions" informs the public about "commitments made by the working collective of the Bucharest Heavy Machines Enterprise, the country's largest producer of energy equipment, at its recent general meeting to increase overall production." The author stresses that there must be "exemplary mobilization everywhere to fully attain all plan targets."

Regular SCINTEIA and ROMANIA LIBERA correspondents along with various authors with unspecified functions continue to report through the end of the month on further energy measures, including those affecting non-productive sectors. They appeal to the population to show "civic spirit in their homes" by making a "patriotic contribution to the fatherland's progress." Both dailies carry various "on-the-spot investigations" to check on reductions in electrical power consumption in homes and shops. They note such "public-spirited initiatives" as: decreasing the number of light bulbs in homes, switching on lights only when necessary; avoiding the use of space heaters, water-heaters, electric stoves, vacuum cleaners, refrigerators, and so on. Examples of "indifference, negligence, and even cheating" are also given, with both dailies reminding their readers that "a spirit of thrift in utilizing energy, and its maximum conservation is an expression of great civic-mindedness and the duty of each member of society."

Starting on 25 February, the space given to energy issues seems to diminish, with energy pieces no longer being published on a daily basis by the newspapers. Radio reports from the energy sector are routinely included in the local economic items with which Bucharest Domestic Service normally opens its main newscasts.

WORK ON DIMBOVITA RIVER PROJECT CONTINUES

AU091316 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1154 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] A part of the 10-km long Dimbovita River improvement site across Bucharest, the Lacul Morii area is its most out-standing objective.

A very important and complex target was achieved last January, namely the new Rosu Nord drinking water conduit, which replaces the one that crossed the Lacul Morii in the middle. Work is in progress on the Dimbovita River upstream Lacul Morii up to the Dragomiresti-Deal Commune to widen the river bed 4-5 metres up to 40 metres, and embank it on a 5518 m length. The Dimbovita River will flow on its new bed toward the largest storage lake of the capital.

Water started to fill the 240 ha Lacul Morii area which is surrounded by the Ciurel Highway, the Cringasi Road, the Pasteur Institute, the Giulesti-Sirbi residential district, the Rosu Commune and the Militari residential district. Lacul Morii is Bucharest's largest storage basin its depth varying between 5 and 10 metres. Water near the storage dam is about 4 metres high now, and the lake already contains about 4 million cubic metres of water out of the total 20 million. The dam is 6 m wide and 3.45 m high and is provided with huge gates which will maintain the level high and the overflow steady so that river's water may stay clear downstream. Work to connect the stilling basin to the new Ciurel Bridge is in its final stage at the dam, as the hydraulic driving units are tested.

The 360 m-long zero section, which connects the Ciurel Bridge to the former Ciurel Dam, is linked to the first Ciurel-Groza Vesti section, completed last autumn, by a newly built 50m-wide river bed. The new Dimbovita River bed, which is 1.7 km long in this area, was filled with water in order to start technological tests.

The Grozavesti-Opera section is one of this site's longest sections, measuring more than 1.8 km.

The 285 m-long waste water collecting pipe was put into operation in the Opereta-Hala Unirii section.

In the Serban Voda-Marasesti section 330 m of that waste pipe are already functional, while the remaining 180 m of the waste pipe are nearing completion.

Excavations have been completed at the Marasesti hydro technical junction point. In the same area the water flow is to be diverted along 180 m in order to build the waste pipes. It has already been over about 2 km between the so-called Intre Girle point and the Mihai Bravu Bridge, while a 950 m-long waste pipe and a new 400 m-long river bed were built. Work has also started at the Mihai Bravu hydrotechnical junction point.

The river's clear water -- almost up to the pavement level -- will be bordered by green areas along its entire course, and have landing stages for pleasure boats.

DIZDAREVIC IN GUYANA FOR NONALIGNED MEETING

LD101759 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Georgetown, 10 Mar (TANJUG) -- Raif Dizdarevic, federal secretary for foreign affairs, arrived in Georgetown today and immediately joined the first plenary session of a special ministerial conference of the Nonaligned Movement's Coordination Bureau.

At the meeting, which was opened by the president of Guyana, Hugh Desmond Hoyte, a message from Zimbabwean Prime Minister, Robert Mugabe, who also chairs the Nonaligned Movement, was read. Mugabe informed those present that he had received messages from leaders of the two superpowers referring to their agreements on limiting medium-range missiles.

In the note, which was read by Witness Mangwende, Zimbabwean minister of foreign affairs, the Nonaligned Movement chairman said he had replied to the messages and had asked Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev to spread the positive climate to other areas as well to benefit the entire international community.

FOREIGN MINISTER DIZDAREVIC VISITS VENEZUELA

For Venezuelan reportage of the visit of Foreign Minister Dizdarevic to Venezuela, including coverage of his talks with Venezuelan President Lusinchi and Foreign Minister Consalvi, see the Venezuela section of the 10 March Latin America DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

LIBYA'S AL-MUNTASIR RECEIVES MOJSOV 9 MAR

LD101410 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1311 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Hun, 10 Mar (TANJUG) -- The first round of Libyan-Yugoslav talks ended in Hun last night.

The delegations are led by Lazar Mojsov, vice president of the SFRY Presidency, and 'Umar Mustafa al-Muntasir, secretary of the General People's Committee.

Mojsov and Muntasir spoke privately after the plenary session while other delegation members continued their work in three separate groups.

Al-Muntasir then hosted a dinner in honor of the Yugoslav vice president and his delegation.

Today's schedule envisages a tour of the Gulf of Sidra petrochemical complex about 200 KM north of Hun.

Tomorrow at the end of his 3-day friendly working visit, Mojsov is expected to be received by Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

TESLIC ASSESSES ROMANIAN-HUNGARIAN DISPUTE

AU102137 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 7-8 Mar 87 p 13

[Vlado Teslic "The Week in the World" column: "Romanians and Hungarians"]

[Excerpts] When serious charges and countercharges on the status of national minorities, or rather, on a revival of fascist and chauvinistic theses, are traded in our Balkan and central European regions, it is understandable that this attracts wide public interest.

The discussions by Budapest and Bucharest also cause concern due to their deeper possible political implications. It would be naive to think that only independent cultural and scientific institutions or some red-hot, ever alert nationalists and chauvinists who have nothing better to do than praise their nation and its virtues are behind these actions.

The dangerous dimensions of these disputes are reflected, among other things, by President Ceausescu's grave charges against "reactionary forces" in Hungary. [passage omitted]

What good is this phenomenon, which has aggravated relations among nationalities in socialist countries? Those in the other camp are always ready to highlight human rights violations in the socialist countries. Is this not a wider international phenomenon increasingly present in countries with other forms of government, too, and one which has far more dangerous -- racist and revanchist -- implications? [passage omitted]

At the Vienna CSCE round, the problem of national minorities is the center of attention thanks to the Final Act's quite specific provisions proclaiming full respect for national rights and due to practices of ignoring and even openly assimilating national groups.

Two approaches have crystalized in Vienna: the Yugoslav approach, which insists that minorities are factors for stability in every country and in Europe in general; and the Canadian approach, on behalf of the West, which makes the minority problem strictly a test of respect for human rights, and which considers it present solely in the socialist countries.

It is interesting that the Hungarian delegation in Vienna has expressed its wish to second both Yugoslav proposals -- calling for greater rights of minorities and migrants -- and to simultaneously back the Canadian initiative condemning discrimination against national minorities and threats to their identity.

Romania and Hungary have been talking "over the fence" for roughly 12 years at scientific forums and through writers and journalists on the status of the 2 to 2.5 million Hungarians living in Transylvania (Erdely). [passage omitted]

This conflict's escalation is probably the result of several factors. Greater democratization, which is increasing in all the socialist countries, has broached the question of greater rights for all people, including national minorities. The question of each country's security also appears in a new light, especially within the prospect of disarmament, weakening of the blocs, and full independence of every country. [paragraph continues]

In this connection two tendencies, equally common and dangerous, appear: for the minority problem to be minimized in favor of national unity (or socialism), or for nationalist elements to exaggerate the issue as was the case in prewar Europe where, along with nationalism and chauvinism, aspirations to foreign territories also took shape.

With its new proposals in Vienna, Yugoslavia is guided primarily by its conviction that national minorities are bridges of neighborly cooperation and have a very important role in strengthening European security. It has been shown that all other approaches either lead to interference in internal affairs or to a strengthening of "old" nationalism and freshly aggravated tension.

The minority problem in this part of the world is not peculiar to socialism. It is a legacy of former empires and the division of many nations. The position of minorities varies, and the fact that they happen to be in neighboring socialist or bourgeois states is irrelevant. Is this not also demonstrated by the fate of our people living in Bulgaria and Albania on one hand, and in Greece and other countries on the other? We had similar experiences with both Hungary and Romania, especially during the Stalinist anti-Yugoslav campaign. In fact, we were almost left without our people in Hungary, as what Horthy began Rakosi finished. In Romania true political rehabilitation of our people's basic national rights after the genocide of Ana Pauker's rein of terror has never taken place.

These are major issues of great importance for good-neighborly relations and better security for all countries of the region. As such they can and must be discussed.

VJESNIK REBUKE OF FEC-ORDERED PRICE HIKES CITED

LD102157 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2008 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Zagreb, 10 Mar (TANJUG) -- The price increases for meat, vegetable oils, and sugar are not a big surprise considering the contantly higher prices that have been swamping Yugoslavia for the past 7 years, VJESNIK writes in tomorrow's issue.

From the point of view of global economic policy, the paper continues, this price rise is almost the government's confession that it has no power to implement economic changes, even though it proclaimed some of these changes itself. Once again, forces in favor of the status quo, forces in favor of inflation and against change, have proved themselves to be stronger. New plants for processing meat, sugar, and vegetable oils were built with the blessing of local bureaucratic-statist structures and without considering the procurement of raw materials, which is the best indicator of the SFRY's autarchic development.

Those familiar with our agriculture, VJESNIK notes, claim that bureaucratic and technocratic structures in municipalities, regions, and combines have a developed system for pressuring the federal administration to approve ever higher prices. This begins with arable crops; on the basis of the disparity created in this way price increases for meat and milk are demanded. Since this then affects the processors demands are made to correct these most recent disparities. When all this is completed, it is decided that the price of arable crops is again too low and everything begins all over again.

By approving price increases for meat, oil and sugar, the FEC has shown it has no stomach for hard choices. Without deemphasizing autarchic development there is no chance of establishing a united Yugoslav market, and thus no real possibility of ending the socioeconomic crisis.

Excessive manufacturing capabilities, behind which lie entrenched municipal and regional structures, are the political obstacles to establishing market and economic forces. Here, at the same time, can be found some opponents to implementating the 13th LCY Congress resolution. The FEC had a chance to move against forces favoring the status quo but did not use it. This clearly shows that neither society, nor the state as personified in the FEC, are ready for radical changes regardless of how much they support them verbally, VJESNIK writes in its 11 March issue.

WORK STOPPAGES IN MACEDONIA INCREASING

LD101930 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1745 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Summary] Skopje, 10 Mar (TANJUG) -- The Commission for the Development of the Political System of Socialist Self-Management of the Council of the Macedonian Trade Union Federation met today, and it was revealed in the first 2 months of this year, there were 38 work stoppages in Macedonia, which is an increase over the same period last year. There were 140 work stoppages in Macedonia last year with 23,045 workers taking part. The major causes of worker discontent are low wages and falling living standards.

SMOLE EXAMINES 'TABOOS' OF FOREIGN POLICY, ARMY

AU071726 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 16 Feb 87 p 2

[O.K. report: "The Slovene Syndrome"]

[Excerpts] Our guest at the beginning of last week was Joze Smole, president of the SAWP Republican Conference of Slovenia. He is, as journalists like to say, one of us -- a former journalist and one of the chief and responsible editors of BORBA who are often remembered for their good work.

If Smole has stirred up the Yugoslav public in recent months as president of a republican SAWP -- from Christmas greetings to explanations of ideas from Slovene youth on civilian service for army service, this was a unique "face-to-face" opportunity to learn what the Slovenes want.

What is this "Slovene syndrome" about, Smole asked. Why is it that certain ideas which have appeared in Slovenia -- controversial as they may be -- have led to a preconceived notion among the Yugoslav public, which believes that nationalist and separatist intentions are involved, an "exclusivity" of our most developed republic, and its gravitation toward Europe without giving much thought to Yugoslav's interests? [passage omitted]

The latest Slovene debates, Smole believes, have attacked two taboos: foreign policy and the Army.

The first taboo: We all like to talk about foreign policy socialization in principle, but are very far from that in practice. Slovene public and political workers have recently been pointing more loudly to the neglect of a significant, European component of Yugoslav foreign policy. The initiatives that Yugoslavia supports -- a more active stand in institutions such as the European Council -- are seen in the republic as very useful. However, the polemics provoked by a DELO article on Yugoslavia's participation in the Eureka and the CEMA Complex scientific-technological programs was considered to be wrong. Smole even referred to an insinuation in the DELO article terming links with the CEMA programs as tantamount to joining the Eastern camp. We have agreed that Yugoslavia needs cooperation with both programs, and not a one-sided orientation toward East or West.

The other taboo: the Army. Smole believes that BORBA's reaction to the Maribor VECER commentary was too harsh. This was, by the way, one of three objections our guest voiced about our articles in the last month. "Every criticism of the Army is not an attack on the Army" -- this is a fact which Smole considers to be important in all debates concerning the Yugoslav People's Army. Thus, the Army cannot be defended with the a priori thesis that it is the only organization behaving perfectly correctly and that all others are suspicious, for the Army is part of this society and, understandably enough, is not completely immune from societal weaknesses that appear every day. [passage omitted]

VECER REPLIES TO BORBA 'WRONG CALL' ARTICLE

AU091025 [Editorial Report] Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian on 21-22 February on page 2 carries a 1,700-word letter by the editors of Maribor VECER, and a 500-word translation of an article by Asja Matjaz, originally published in Maribor VECER in Slovene.

The VECER letter refers to the article "Wrong Call" published in BORBA on 6 February and resents the fact that VECER had been "so to speak proclaimed an organ of hostile emigrants" on the basis of "a single article." Such "'a generalization' of course has nothing in common with scientific Marxist theoretical method, for instance," and is unfair to "a daily that, for instance, not only originated the idea for the first Brotherhood and Unity train but in fact organized it many years ago."

The VECER editors remark that "it would have been professionally correct" for BORBA "to publish the VECER article which was the occasion for its 'destructive analysis.'" Regarding the substance of the BORBA attack, the editors note it ignored the VECER assessment that discussions on the civilian instead of military service had "excessive dimensions," but it was "shocked" at the suggestion that the Army should have met the proposers before discussions had escalated. The VECER article arose out of a discussion at a Press Council of the Republican Conference Presidium of the SAWP of Slovenia session (filed as AU291900 Belgrade BORBA Serbo-Croatian 17-18 Jan -- SFRY: Slovene SAWP Assesses Reports About Army), where it was stated that the Army should not consider every critical newspaper article as an attack on it.

On the same page below this letter, under the headline, "We Carry the Article From Maribor VECER in Full," BORBA carries without further comment the disputed article by Asja Matjaz, which includes the following passage:

"In many discussions and in various articles one can still encounter 'fortress' a mentality among Army representatives, the feeling that critical articles endanger the Army and that it must be defended, even though an article may not be an attack but merely an objective report on an event, situation, or act.

"The attitude of the Army representatives, who in fact represent thousands upon thousands of people in its ranks, will therefore have to change."

JOVICIC ADDRESSES ARMY LC ORGANIZATION

AU101412 Belgrade NARODNA ARMIJA in Serbo-Croatian 19 Feb 87 No 2484 p 5

[N. Pesic report on speech by Georgije Jovicic, president of the LC Organization in the Yugoslav People's Army, delivered "last week" at the fifth session of the LC Organization in the Yugoslav People's Army: "Making the Activity of the Opponents of Socialism Difficult"]

[Excerpts] As is well known, at their joint session held late last year, the LCY Central Committee Presidium and the SFRY Presidency discussed the nation's political and security situation. They placed special emphasis on anti-socialist forces increasing activities, with the bourgeois right becoming more prominent. Based on these views, assessments, and conclusions, the LCY organization in the Yugoslav People's Army [YPA] organized party exchanges. [passage omitted]

The Spectrum of Initiated Questions [subhead]

Explaining the course and content of general party discussions in basic organizations and committees lasting 2 months, Georgije Jovicic, president of the YPA LC Organization Committee Presidium, stated in his introductory speech: "The discussions showed general agreement with the LCY Central Committee Presidium and the SFRY Presidency assessment of the political and security situation and the activities of anti-socialist forces.

"A wide range of questions was raised. The most important were: the state of the LCY's political and ideological unity, the neglect of responsibilities in society and the LCY, and the phenomena of opportunism and indecisiveness in ideopolitical differentiation.... [passage omitted]

"The communists spoke with anxiety about the revival of nationalism and clero-nationalism, the situation in Kosovo, weaknesses in the educational system, the neglect of work with secondary school student, unacceptable criticism directed at the YPA, the degrading of the basic values of our revolution, attacks on the personality of Comrade Tito, arguments over the LCY's historic role during the national liberation struggle and in the country's postwar development, bribery and corruption, and shortcomings in the fields of information and publishing.

"Referring to the aforementioned questions, which we have been living with for a long time, the communists stressed that these had already been subjected to public debate 2 years ago when discussions on the 13th LCY Central Committee session's draft conclusions took place, but that little has been done toward solving them." [passage omitted]

Speaking more specifically on a number of questions, Georgije Jovicic, president of the YPA's LC Organization Committee Presidium, declared:

"In the public debate on the 13th LCY Central Committee session's draft proposals and in the recently concluded examination of SAWPY Communists' activities, the communists once again expressed dissatisfaction with the level of unity in the LCY. They called for unity to be expressed in solving the critical problems posed by society's development. At present this does not occur to the extent required by the situation and the general state of society." [passage omitted]

Speaking on economic difficulties and their influence on the Army and the country's political and security situation, Jovicic said:

"However modest and limited economic improvements during last and this year -- such as regular debt servicing, the timely adoption of plan documents, work on improving technological development, adoption of the LCY Central Committee's tenets on income creation and distribution, increasing industrial and agricultural production, and so forth -- may be compared to the economy's overall problems, they inspire confidence in our capabilities. The members of the YPA support measures and efforts being carried out in this field with understanding attitudes toward funds provided for its needs. They are aware of the need and possibilities for strengthening these efforts in the Army. Accordingly, measures are being undertaken to further rationalize Army spending and toward important tasks, primarily further modernization and overall combat build up. These are the tasks that should be our primary concern." [passage omitted]

"The results achieved and the established scope of changes that should be made in the SFRY Constitution have been assessed positively.

"The development of relations between the socialist autonomous provinces and the SR of Serbia is being carefully followed. Faster resolution of problems in these relations are expected. Members of the YPA are plagued by narrow-mindedness, lack of tolerance, and an inclination toward politicization and public confrontation.

"In its character and according to its social role, the YPA is pan-Yugoslav. This is why the members of the Army must not and should not subject themselves to theses representing regional or partial interests..." [passage omitted]

"As far as the situation in Kosovo is concerned, it was repeated that the slow process of stabilization adversely affects the political and security situation in the country. In connection with this, the request of the communists and members of the Army for a consistent implementation of the stabilization measures in Kosovo is justified because the situation continues to be a serious threat to the security and stability of Yugoslavia." [passage omitted]

"Members of the Army are aware of the tasks they face. They will carry them out through patient, persistent, and hard work in sociopolitical organizations and communities, through strengthening ties between the people and the Army, and greater ideopolitical influence on young people," Georgije Jovicic said, among other things. [passage omitted]

At the session's conclusion the Committee of the LC Organization in the YPA adopted the work program for 1987.

PRESIDIUM'S SETINC SPEAKS AT LCY SESSION

LD231958 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0859 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Excerpts] Belgrade, 22 Feb (TANJUG) -- The 3-month public debate on the LCY Central Committee's draft stances on the LC in the Socialist Alliance's activity has been broad, substantial, and rich in proposals and suggestions. The draft stances were basically approved but at the same time it was sharply emphasized it is high time we stop evaluating the situation with "appeals and references to obligations." With public debate's completion and the adoption of stances the first part of the work has been completed. Now we are faced with immediately further promoting the SAWP's work to better express and resolve the real interests and requirements of working people and citizens.

This was how Franc Setinc, member of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, assessed in his introductory speech the public debate on proposed positions of the LC in the Socialist Alliance's activity. Stressing that what is needed for realizing these tasks is a more united, more decisive, and better organized LC, Setinc pointed out the public debate's critical tones which clearly emphasized the greatest responsibility for the SWAP's weaknesses lie with the LC. In our specific social conditions, the most pressing question now is to break with elements of etatist practice in society, the LC, and other sociopolitial organizations. Without this, he warned, communists cannot successfully develop the broadest front of democratic socialist forces of which they themselves are a constituent part.

Proceeding from this, the document reinforces and specifies the tasks concerning the need to find more effective methods of broad democratic control and openness [javnost] in the work of state organs and exponents of self-managing, public, and other social functions which the SAWP's membership should achieve. It is particularly important that the Socialist Alliance should seek better solutions, and not simply express its views on proposals of state organs and other institutions of the political system. Besides this, more emphasis is placed on commitment to consistently implement decisions on compulsory nominating a larger number of candidates in elections, the democratization and simplification of preelection procedures and methods of election, and on voters' more direct influence.

Speaking on some unacceptable proposals that emerged from public debate, Franc Setinc cited the calls for introducing some form of multiparty system, supposedly for improving the quality of our democracy. This would simply be a way, he noted, of creating political monopolies and opening the way for bourgeois democracy's restoration. Overcoming the existing weaknesses in the LC is the essential prerequisite for strengthening the ability of all progressive forces in society to overcome the crisis. It is essential that the LCY should make itself increasingly felt in the form of democratic, creative involvement of communists and its delegates and representatives, so the SAWP becomes a more contemporary form of the political activity of working people and sociopolitical and social organizations. We must achieve a higher degree of democracy in the ideopolitical struggle, and always be ready to respond to arguments of those who think differently or to contest them in democratic debate.

Further assessing the public debate, Setinc said it is a generally accepted idea that the SAWP is neither an intermediary nor an alternative to the LC, but rather is necessary for working people and citizens as the broadest basis for their sociopolitical activity in a socialist self-managing society. In the debate, both tendencies were rejected: the liberalistic, which opposes the LC's leading role in the Socialist Alliance, and the dogmatic, which calls for a return to the LC's monopolistic position. [passage omitted]

In the debate, Setinc said, changes were sought to the SAWP's structure of leaderships and forums. Their vacancies should be filled with the most capable and proven citizens, workers and farmers, experts and creative workers from all spheres of life and work, whether or not they are members of the LC. At present, members of the LC dominate the leadership structure of the SAWP, particularly at the higher levels, which does not reflect the actual breadth of the Socialist Alliance's basis.

Speaking on the involvement of Communists in this mass sociopolitical organization, Setinc noted that they act only as individuals and not so much on the basis of prior agreement within the framework of the appropriate LC organs or their delegations in the SAWP. [paragraph continues]

On the whole, the debate assessed that communists from associated labor organizations should be committed to working in the local community in accordance with their abilities. What is called for, in other words, is greater affirmation within the SAWP of the trade unions' voice, and basic organizations of the LC and Socialist Youth Federation in production.

Commenting on views in public debate on new spontaneous forms of self-organization, Franc Setinc stressed that a united orientation has been expressed in which such activities should not be approached dogmatically and rejected, or ignored and labeled in advance. They are, he said, our reality and it is only on the basis of a profound examination, in a democratic struggle of views, that the correct attitude to them can be constructed and our ideopolitical orientation on each concrete case established. However, both opportunism and avoidance of publicity in cases where it is obvious that young people and public opinion have been manipulated are impermissible. We should certainly not forget here, Setinc warned, that we, too, are part of the modern world in which spontaneous movements are on the increase.

As a result, in the document's final text, emphasis is placed on the duties of communists in the SAWP so this broadest democratic organization will attract, to a greater degree, working people active in promoting the line of socialist humanism and thus developing and enriching sociopolitical life. This will facilitate the greater satisfaction of life's needs and people's interests. In this way, the satisfaction of these interests and needs without recourse to organized forms of sociopolitical self-managing activities would be prevented, as would their occasional appearance in the form of excesses. Stressed more forthrightly is the need for disassociating from those activities which, in the name of alleged spontaneity, could destabilize our society and allow unhindered access to bourgeois ideas or dogmatic ideology. The fight against ideological opponents can only be won on a positive program of constructing socialist self-managing society, Franc Selinc said. [passage omitted]

There were many remarks to the effect that the SAWP's role at the federal level is not developed sufficiently in the draft. There was a request to begin discussion as soon as possible on the SAWP's actual functioning in the federation, as this reflects most obviously poor integration of the front's divisions.

Finally, Franc Setinc rejected as unacceptable the assessment that the Central Committee wished, by having this public debate, to access work of the SAWP organs. The aim and purpose of the public debate, and the document which we are to adopt, is to discover the best ways of increasing involvement of communists in the SAWP, and to turn it into an actual action front as opposed to a forum front, Franc Setinc, member of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, said among other things.

SFRY CHAMBER OF REPUBLICS, PROVINCES MEETS

LD270516 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1704 GMT 26 Feb 87

[Excerpts] Belgrade, 26 Feb (TANJUG) -- The Chamber of Republics and Provinces of the SFRY Assembly stated today that the trends in individual business sectors, declining since the beginning of the year, are endangering the implementation of this year's economic policy tasks. Noting that the deviation from established goals results from inconsistent implementation of this year's resolution, the Chamber supported guidelines for the activities and measures proposed by the FEC for overcoming the unfavorable trends.

Obliging the FEC to propose supplementary measures to ensure the implementation of the resolution, the Chamber concluded that a turnaround is possible only if accompanied by the constant and synchronized activity of all the republics and provinces with associated labor in increasing production, exports, and maintaining the agreed consumption limits.

In the debate on the economic situation and price trends which lasted many hours, delegates assessed as significant the quick reaction by the FEC to initiate the discussion in the Assembly. Supporting the proposed moves and the "tone" of FEC President Branko Mikulic, delegates expressed certain reservations and doubt to the range of the measures offered, pointing out that this is the same classic scenario of short-term measures that has been going on for years. [passage omitted]

As economic trends threaten to have dramatic consequences, the question of whether the FEC should propose more energetic measures is a dilemma facing the Committee for Economic Relations with Foreign Countries, Tomica Raicevic (Serbia) reported. It should be clearly stated why a breakdown has occurred in established policy in many sectors, Raicevic said, asking in concrete terms whether price movements are the consequence of unsuccessful economic criteria or the lack of a price system and policy. We are not yet succeeding in a joint economic policy, and in essence we have not yet even begun with a true anti-inflationary policy. This is, in his words, the consequence of differing interests. [passage omitted]

Stating that the situation is most difficult in economic relations with foreign countries, Mirko Skakic (Croatia) stressed that the foreign exchange market's failure to function and inappropriate solutions in current economic policy (exchange rates, interest rates, taxes on imports and incentives) have reduced income-related motivation to export. Speaking in detail on the discrepancy between exports and imports, their decline and the consequences, he warned that illiquidity in terms of foreign exchange this year threatens to assume drastic proportions, accompanied by simultaneous "stagflationary" economic trends. Illustrating the situation with statistics from Croatia, Skakic concluded that previous measures have not achieved a vital turnaround and that solutions must now be found that will stimulate the economy to export.

Expressing support for the FEC measures to stimulate income-related motivation to export, Skakic stressed that he is thinking specifically of an up-to-date policy for the dinar exchange rate, proposing that thought be given to whether it be anticipatory instead of simply covering the difference between domestic and world prices.

Abdulah Bunjaku (Kosovo) requested that consumption measures be selective and not endanger the workers' motivation to achieve better production results. He pointed out that the growth in consumption in Kosovo is significantly below average for the country.

In a very detailed discussion, Zivan Marelj (Vojvodina) spoke of the need to eliminate the basic causes of inflation and to effectively resolve the problem of working assets. He particularly insisted only interest in the economy and sanctions against the use of social funds can "turn the system around" and ensure that it functions. [passage omitted]

The Chamber went on to adopt a draft program of measures and activities of our country in the realization of the conclusions of the Nonaligned summit in Harare. Oskar Kovac, a member of the FEC, made the opening address, specifying three kinds of program measures and activities -- political, economic, and those in the field of social activities.

Among the first, a special place will be afforded Yugoslavia's efforts in the struggle for disarmament and international security. Our country will participate actively in the preparations for the Ministerial Conference of the Nonaligned countries in Cyprus in 1988, where a decision will be made as to the host for the next summit. Yugoslavia will also be active, Kovac continued, in the struggle to resolve the problems of southern Africa and in the framework of the CSCE process. In keeping with the Harare decisions, Yugoslavia will advocate a peaceful solution to disputes between nonaligned countries and a strengthening of the role of the United Nations as a negotiating forum.

In the second part of the program, the measures and activities of the SFRY in implementing the decision of the eighth summit in the economic sphere are defined. The activity of the SFRY will be directed, on the one hand, toward taking appropriate initiatives and actions within the United Nations, UNCTAD, ECOSOC [United Nations Economic Social Council], the IMF, GATT, and other international institutions, and on the other hand toward questioning economic cooperation between nonaligned and developing countries.

Yugoslavia will be involved in renewing North-South dialogue, strengthening the system of the United Nations, preparing for the seventh session of UNCTAD, etc., with the aim of creating conditions for the establishment of equal cooperation with the developed countries. An important obligation of our country, Oskar Kovac stressed, will be its activity in the work of international financial institutions to increase the capital available to developing countries and the reform of the international monetary system.

The program also contains both tasks and measures in the fields of communications, agriculture, the fishing industry, industries and electric power generation, as well as in science and technology.

The chamber continued to consider in the session the problems of small businesses. It was concluded that it is vital to constitutionally strengthen the position of personal work and small businesses, something which would contribute to the removal of numerous causes which are impeding their greater affirmation and development. The chamber believes that it is necessary to create equal conditions of doing business within the country in such a way that the position of this sector of the economy depends, above all, on the results of work.

Speaking about the problems facing small businesses, FEC representative Dr Andrej Ocvirk pointed out that SFRY Assembly conclusions about its development are being implemented slowly and that the results achieved over the last few years continue to fail to satisfy needs and possibilities.

Stressing that the development of smaller capacities is a priority social task, he pointed out that the changes initiated to the Constitution and the Law on Associated Labor will facilitate the broad expansion of small businesses and ensure that they have an appropriate place in economic life. The needs and scope for strengthening the socioeconomic position and security of those who work using their personal labor will be examined to accelerate the development of this section of the small businesses and their greater role in social reproduction.

Proceeding from the fact that there are realistic preconditions for the accelerated growth of small businesses in Yugoslavia, Ocvirk stated that despite the greater interest of so-called large-scale businesses in small businesses, the former have not yet become significant bearers of the development of small businesses, something which is a fundamental precondition for expansion in this area. In many environments, Ocvirk warned, there continues to be distrust, insecurity and ideological resistance especially to cooperation with the individual sector, and this must be opposed resolutely.

We should not permit the discrepancy between orientation toward the more rapid development of small businesses and what is really happening to continue, and we must advocate the development of private initiative accompanied by stimuli to enrichment which is the result of work, Ocvirk said. Revenue which is not the result of labor should be restricted by a tax policy and checkups by inspectors.

In his analysis of small business trends during the last medium-term period, Ocvirk explained that they have achieved a higher growth rate in social production than the economy at large (3 percent as opposed to 0.6 percent, and in employment 3.5 percent as opposed to 2.4 percent). Owing to the insufficient development and modest scale of small businesses, this has, nevertheless, not been reflected in its greater role in the overall economy, nor has it contributed to its greater influence in changing the structure of the economy as a whole, in making more rational use of capacities and in solving the problem of unemployment.

Indicating that favorable changes in small business development are chiefly the result of changes in the private sector, as its most significant part (65 percent of all those employed in small businesses and 57 percent of the social product of small businesses), Ocvirk stressed that this is of special significance because of the many years of reserve and resistance toward the private sector.

After this, while mentioning the measures and activities of the Federation in the sphere of small businesses, Andrej Ocvirk singled out in particular the agreement of republics and provinces on setting uniform conditions, ways of founding and running autonomous workshops, contractual organizations and cooperatives which should soon 'set out' on the negotiating process.

The chamber then ratified the European Convention on Culture and Protocol, together with the European Convention on Cross-Border Air Pollution at great distances, which regulate the finances of the cooperation program for monitoring and evaluating the transfer of air pollutants over great distances.

The chamber adopted the report on the SFRY Assembly's cooperation with representative bodies of other states last year and the cooperation program for this year. Peter Gvozdenovic, previously a judge in the Vojvodina Supreme Court, was elected by the chamber as a Federal Court judge.

The chamber was informed that the social compact on special measures for implementing the policy of the most rapid development of the Socialist Autonomous Province (SAP) of Kosovo up to 1990 has not been agreed upon because of supplementary demands by Kosovo, which believes the measures proposed are insufficient for realizing the goals set.

It was recommended to the SAP Kosovo Assembly that it consider once again its supplementary proposals, bearing in mind the standpoints of other participants in the social compact and the FEC, and advise the chamber as soon as possible so that work on this document can continue.